

JPRS-SEA-85-166

30 October 1985

Southeast Asia Report

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30 October 1985

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INDONESIA

MINISTER MARTONO ON TRANSMIGRATION PROGRAM

BK041119 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 1 Oct 85 p 3

[Text] Jakarta (JP)--Transmigration Minister Martono has denied that Indonesia's massive and extensive transmigration program violates human rights and its principles.

Delivering a statement before Commission IV of parliament (DPR) dealing with social and public welfare Monday, Minister Martono earlier noted that views by some countries that Indonesia was violating tribal and cultural rights could harm the country's interests. He did not mention the countries by name but their political views about the country's resettlement program could harm the country particularly with regard to foreign aid extended to promote the transmigration program.

The minister stressed that nation's transmigration program aimed at creating a new Pancasila community living in spiritual and material happiness and harmony.

"For this reason it is entirely not true that the transmigration program is being coerced upon the people and less when it is being linked with violations of human right principles," Minister Martono emphasized before the legislators.

He pledged that the government would step up an information drive abroad to enlighten people about the goal of Indonesia's transmigration program. Foreign officials would also be invited to see for themselves on what had been attained with the resettlement of people from overcrowded areas to new and better sites, he said.

Other factors bearing influence on the materialization of the transmigration program, the minister continued were environmental conditions at home, like the geographic aspect, the natural resources and security and defense aspect and the socio-economic situation.

Seen from the geographical aspect, Indonesia, composed of numerous big and small islands, needs an efficient and effective transportation system to make transmigration a success.

The transportation pattern at the moment was good but it could be further improved. And with continuity assured the transportation system could be further efficiently improved, the minister explained.

He also talked about the nation's rich natural resources and said that they varied in one area from another. For this reason the transmigration program should be adjusted to the potentials of the natural resources available in the area concerned without also neglecting its supporting powers.

He also would draw attention to the social and cultural aspects and security and defense affairs in transmigration, for if not, he feared there might be peace disturbances and instability in the area concerned.

Minister Martono said that it was planned to have some 150,000 migrant families moved to new settlements in the outer regions during fiscal year 1986-87 starting April 1, 1986. This would mean in the third year of the current fourth Five Year Plan (Pelita IV).

The minister concluded that his ministry would work hard to implement the transmigration program as best as possible for which purpose improvements had been carried out among its various agencies.

CSO: 4200/35

PHILIPPINES

CORAZON AQUINO ON CHURCH, ARMY SUPPORT IN OPPOSITION

HK020216 Hong Kong AFP in English 1430 GMT 1 Oct 85

[Text] Singapore, Oct 1 (AFP)--Corazon Aquino, widow of slain Filipino Senator Benigno Aquino, today said opposition groups bent on ousting President Ferdinand Marcos could expect support from two forces in the Philippines--the Roman Catholic Church and the military.

"We have reason to hope that both sectors will play their rightful roles at the proper time," Mrs Aquino told a seminar here co-sponsored by two private political and economic research organisations, the Manila-based Centre for Research and Communication and the Singapore-based Information Resource Centre.

Mrs Aquino said there was a reform movement among the officer cadres of the military who were unhappy with what she described as "the reprehensible acts of a small minority (of superiors) that had tainted the honor and integrity of the entire officer corps."

She said the officers, who were committed to the use of constitutional means, had the support of some retired officers with impeccable credentials and their strength was growing. They would refuse to stand by what they see as immoral or unjust actions, she added.

The military is one of President Marcos' main power bases and its reputation came under a cloud following allegations that a high level military conspiracy led to the assassination of Mr Aquino 2 years ago on his return from self-imposed exile in the United States.

Mrs Aquino added that the church which also has a dominating presence, was already outspoken and active on human rights issues.

"The moral leadership of the church and how it is expressed and exercised will influence the degree of involvement of the so-called silent majority," she said.

CSO: 4200/22

PHILIPPINES

LAWYER URGES REOPENING OF AQUINO TRIAL

HK301200 Hong Kong AFP in English 1022 GMT 30 Sep 85

[Text] Manila, 30 Sep (AFP)--A lawyer who helped probe the killing of Benigno Aquino today urged that the trial be reopened, following reports that a cabinet minister tracked the opposition leader's movements before the shooting.

Andres Narvasa, counsel of a citizens' board whose findings led to the trial of armed forces chief General Fabian Ver and 25 others for the murder, told reporters that "intriguing questions" were raised by a report that Tourism Minister Jose Aspiras tracked Mr Aquino's movements before his return here.

Mr Narvasa said the report also indicated that the government had discovered the assumed name Mr Aquino was using for his flight back to Manila on his return from self-exile in the United States on 21 August 1983.

Mr Aquino, who was travelling under the name Marcial Bonifacio, was gunned down as he stepped from a China Airlines flight at Manila Airport.

Two dailies here quoted the U.S. daily SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER as saying yesterday that cables between Mr Aspiras, a close ally of President Ferdinand Marcos, and China Airlines showed that he inquired about Mr Aquino's flight, the pseudonym he used, what he was wearing and whether newsmen were with him.

Mr Aspiras' office today said he was out of the country and had sent no statement on the report, but the BUSINESS DAY newspaper quoted an official close to the minister as saying that the EXAMINER report was "absurd."

Mr Narvasa said Mr Aspiras and others reportedly involved in the cables must be questioned at a reopening of the trial.

Although the trial proper ended Thursday, prosecutors may seek a reopening of the case before the verdict, which is due within 90 days from 16 October, the deadline for both sides to submit final written stands.

Mr Narvasa said the reported telex messages "indicate very strongly that the government had narrowed down their search for Aquino, they had located him in Taipei, in fact they had identified his (assumed) name."

The probe board, whose conclusion of a military conspiracy behind the Aquino murder relied heavily on the findings of Mr Narvasa and his legal panel, rejected the government's claim that it never monitored Mr Aquino's return.

Mr Narvasa said that if the report of the cable exchange was true, it would seem that a wider conspiracy was involved in Mr Aquino's murder. "Why would Minister Aspiras be making these inquiries?"

He said the probe board was not furnished any of the cables during its 11-month inquiry from November 1983 to October 1984. The EXAMINER [reportedly] said it obtained copies of the cables and that a China Airline official had authenticated them.

Mr Aspiras's name first surfaced in the case when a witness told the probe board that he and Information Minister Gregorio Cendana were in an air force base near Manila Airport on the day Mr Aquino arrived and left upon getting word of the assassination, but no witness at the trial testified on this.

Prosecutors, who adopted all of the probe board's findings, hold that a soldier shot Mr Aquino as part of the military conspiracy. The defense says an alleged communist hitman shot Mr Aquino before troopers killed him.

CSO: 4200/13

PHILIPPINES

SPEAKERS, PETITIONS ADVANCE CORY AQUINO CANDIDACY

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 30 Sep 85 p 2

[Article: "Draft Cory Move Gains"]

[Text]

The "Draft Cory Aquino for President Movement" is gathering momentum. A group of concerned citizens holding their third meeting recently were joined by people from all walks of life from Novaliches, Marikina, Tondo, and Navotas.

They were addressed by several speakers discussing the current socio-economic political situation. They included former Manila Times publisher Joaquin "Chino" Roces, opposition leader Aquilino Pimentel, former Constitutional Convention delegate Bren Guiao, and Emanuel Soriano.

The movement organizers are now busy gathering signatures from two million Filipinos urging Mrs. Aquino to run. The plan is to get a million signatories each from Metro Manila and the provinces.

The group is spearheaded by Quezon City residents Vic Sison, Denny Olivares, Mars Araneta, Joe Umali, Fed Palma and Mon Pelaez. They said the signatures will be presented before the media, and then to Mrs. Aquino within one month.

It is hoped that with these two million signatures, Mrs. Aquino will be persuaded to run and other opposition aspirants will be prevailed upon to give way to Mrs. Aquino for the sake of the unity of all opposition forces, they explained.

PHILIPPINES

PAPER REPORTS MOUNTING U.S. PRESSURE ON MARCOS

HK271221 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 19 Sep 85 pp 1-2

[Article by Marlen Ronquillo]

[Text] The United States is increasingly disgusted over the Marcos government's "refusal" to carry out political and economic reforms and is stepping up the pressures, including overt destabilization moves, that political oppositionists say amount to no less than a declaration of "war."

An analysis of current national events revealed by oppositionists yesterday said the pressures are building up on two fronts--economic and political--to dramatize the U.S. Government's disgust over the direction of the Philippine Government's current major policies.

"The pressures are slowly shifting from subtle reminders to overt, destabilization efforts," an Opposition MP who did most of the analysis told MALAYA.

The analysis said the strongly-worded protest the U.S. State Department made over the failure to the Tanodbayan to take in as valuable pieces of evidence the affidavits of U.S. military officers on the scrambling of the jets to intercept a plane the day Opposition leader Benigno S. Aquino Jr. arrived and was shot on 21 August 1983 "means more than what meets the eyes."

"The U.S. State Department's grim reminder to the Tanodbayan is the first of a series of measures designed to make the Marcos government turn about from its intransigence," the analysis said.

"Though the U.S. Department's [as published] view on the scrambling affidavits was couched in diplomatic terms, the message in between the lines reveals that the country's closest ally is ready to clash head-on with the Marcos government on the issue of political and economic reforms," according to the analysis.

The oppositionists' analysis jibes with information from ruling party sources who said the Marcos government views the State Department's protest as more of a strong signal to "toe the line, or else..." than as a simple rebuke of the Tanodbayan.

However, American Ambassador to the Philippines Stephen Bosworth has repeatedly asserted that his government is not involved in any interventionist adventures in the Philippines, and that it continues to respect the Philippines as a sovereign state.

Bosworth had also denied published reports that the United States, through the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), will support a coup against Mr Marcos.

According to the analysis, the country's creditor-banks and the International Monetary Fund-World Bank have devised economic policies to "tighten the screws" on the rescheduling of the country's external debts and the release of the \$3 billion in trade credits aimed at perking up production, export and import in the country.

The economic policies shaped up by the creditor-banks and the IMF-WB, specifically on the release of the \$3 billion in trade credits and the rescheduling of the foreign loans, are designed to give the foreign agencies "unlimited leverage" in bargaining for reforms, the analysis said.

"The slow pace of the rescheduling and the failure of local businesses to hasten the availment of the \$3 billion in trade credits may have been caused by the foreign agency's need to have solid leverage in bargaining for reforms with the Marcos government," the analysis said.

The analysis said the business community is wild with talks that the WB-IMF-inspired devaluation of the peso is in the offing and the two agencies are using the devaluation issue to extract more reforms from the Marcos government.

"Merely the issue on by how much will the peso go up against the greenback gives the IMF-WB and the foreign governments which control these institutions great leverage in bargaining for reforms," said the analysis.

The analysis said the United States, which represents the majority interest in the IMF-WB, "will use the stranglehold of the agencies over the distressed Philippine economy to the limit."

The decision to "tighten the screws" on the Marcos government was influenced by what the United States perceives as the refusal of the Marcos government to heed the reforms it has recommended.

The main gripes of the United States are Mr Marcos's refusal to promulgate rules for a free and fair election and accredit the National Movement for Free Elections, the strengthening of the para-military units and Marcos' recent takeover of the power to supervise police forces in the country.

On the economic side, the United States is "irked" by "cosmetic" reforms in the sugar and coconut industries, according to the analysis.

Sugar cane and coconut oil are among our chief exports to the United States and the two are among the most vital cash crops in the country.

The analysis said the adoption of a hard-line policy towards the Marcos government was a joint initiative of the State Department and the U.S. Congress.

"Remember that the Congress has only been the hard-liner on the reform issue. The State Department opted for more subtle forms of pressure in the past," according to the analysis.

For the first time, the analysis said, the State Department realized the agitations from Congress for a hard-line approach are vital in dealing with Mr Marcos.

CSO: 4200/13

PHILIPPINES

OPPOSITION MPS SAID PLANNING MUTINY AGAINST MINORITY

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 29 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

[Article by Marlen Ronquillo: "'Mutiny' May Split BP Minority"]

[Text]

A group of Opposition Members of Parliament is planning to carry out a "parliamentary mutiny" to change the minority leadership in the Parliament and come up with an "effective fiscalization program," Malaya sources said.

The sources failed to say when and how the group will carry out its plan to overhaul the minority leadership in the Batasan, but said the target date is "late this year."

"Members of the rebel group have been meeting secretly for the past two months plotting their steps," sources said.

The plan covers the replacement of the current leaders of the Opposition in the Parliament. These are Minority Floorleader Jose B. Laurel Jr. (Batangas) and Assistant Minority Floorleaders Neptali Gonzales of (San Juan-Mandaluyong), Edmundo Coa (Camarines Sur), and Marcelo Fernan (Cebu City).

Being eyed to replace them are Luis Villafuerte (Camarines Sur), Minority Floorleader, and Oscar Santos (Quezon), Arthur Defensor (Iloilo), Homobono Adaza (Misamis Or.) as Assistant Minority Floorleaders.

Sources said the only remaining problem of the rebel group is the "reluctance" of their nominees to accept the minority leadership in the Parliament.

All of the nominees, except Adaza who ran under a regional party, belong to the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (Unido), the party organized by the Laurel political clan

All four are close to the Laurels, especially ex-Sen. Salvador H. Laurel, the presidential nominee of the UNIDO.

The rebel group is reportedly "fed up" with the "uninspired leadership" of the minority leaders, sources said.

"There is a general feeling of frustration over the leadership. Some even believe the leadership takes the cue from somewhere and not from the MPs," according to the sources.

The specific cases where the minority leadership were said to have shown "lackluster leadership" were in the impeachment resolution against President Marcos and the Opposition against the national budget for the next year, sources said.

According to the sources, the rebel group has a list of the instances where the minority leadership failed to fight the legislative initiatives of the ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan.

The rebel MPs also condemn the lack of an "effective fiscalization program" in the Parliament and are blaming their leaders for this, sources said.

"There is no long-term fiscalization program or a semblance of it. Strategies are plotted on a day-to-day basis leaving the oppositionists off-guard in many previous floor deliberations," the sources, quoting members of the rebel group, as saying.

The rebel group believes its "nominees" have the "fire and talent" to initiate an effective fiscalization program in the Batasan.

Adaza, who is not a member of the rebel group, Tuesday night scored leadership of the minority in the parliament in a speech before Rotarians.

PHILIPPINES

METRO MANILA VIEWERS WATCHING U.S. NEWS VIDEOS

HK040421 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 2 Oct 85 p 5

[By Joel D. Lacsamana]

[Excerpt] Video cassettes of U.S. news programs have become the latest rage among the Filipino middle-class. The tapes which give insightful coverage of Philippine socio-economic realities are an expensive vice, no doubt, but one which many Filipinos in Metro Manila believe is the only way they can get an accurate picture of what's really happening in the country.

They come in small, rectangular packets. Compact video cassettes that have become the latest rage among Metro Manila businessmen, executives, politicians and other "concerned" Filipinos who can afford it.

What's this? The latest bold flick? Another lurid expose on ill-gotten wealth? The fifth and final game of the NBA championship playoffs? Hardly.

What they've got here is something better, or so it seems from the way these video films are spreading like wildfire as eager viewers hastily churn out their own hot copies and merrily pass them on to the next "uninformed" person.

Yes, sir, news programs from the United States have invaded the local video scene and judging from the looks of it, Metro Manila viewers--long starved for insightful coverage/analysis (and visual yet), of current Philippine conditions--have been bitten hard. Name it and they're making the rounds: "60 Minutes," "20/20," "Hotline," and the "MacNeil/Lehrer" news hour.

These U.S.-made news programs are produced solely for the purpose of the American prime-time audience. As such, subjects that are tackled in the programs are vivid in detail, with eye-catching visuals, interviews and statistics as well as an admitted penchant for sentimental editorializing by its foreign correspondents. ("Check out this guy Gerardo Rivera of '20/20'!")

Obviously, however, this doesn't bother the hundreds of Metro Manila viewers who have managed to get copies of these programs usually through connections at Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base where they are shown regularly via their own television stations.

Upon viewing the tapes, one easily sees the reasons behind their instant popularity. For one, the programs are packaged well, in 45-minute segments that deal with a variety of subjects. The big box-office draw for the local market, however, are understandably those which deal at length with current Philippine conditions. They give incisive and somewhat painful observations--both visual and verbal--that focus on glaring socio-economic and political truths in the country without the benefit of rose-tinted filters.

The titles and subtitles of these localized segments speak for themselves. Ranging from the poignant ("Faces of Poverty") to the analytical ("Strategic Dilemma: U.S. Bases in the Philippines") to the dramatically prophetic ("Seeds of Revolt"), the titles seem to convey the utter hopelessness, corruption and simmering social discontent in a country which the program correspondents melodramatically term as a "social volcano ready to explode."

To be sure, not many Filipinos actually residing in the country today are buying all this. Nonetheless--and understandably so--local viewers are interested in what the rest of the world thinks about the Philippines and why they think so. And since the local press--television, broadcast and print--are impeded by certain "constraints" in presenting an accurate picture of Philippine conditions, it is obvious why this sort of "video journalism" is enjoying the popularity it has right now.

In any case, Filipinos who have seen some of the tapes now have an idea why the Philippines has such an unsavory reputation abroad.

One can also imagine Filipino expatriates in the United States quivering in the darkness of their living rooms as a droll Charles Krause of the "MacNeil/Lehrer" news hour intones from the set that "NPA guerrillas are slowly but surely taking over the provinces." Or that Manila is "the pedophile capital of the world."

One of the more powerful videos currently making the rounds of Makati high-rise offices and middle-class households is the edited version of the "MacNeil/Lehrer" news hours.

CSO: 4200/57

PHILIPPINES

CARDINAL, OTHERS DRAFTING AGENDA FOR RECONCILIATION

HK301342 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 24 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

[Article by Marlen Ronquillo]

[Text] Cardinal Jaime Sin and a select group of businessmen are drafting an agenda for national reconciliation they hope would head off a civil war and restore peace to the already blood-soaked country. The agenda would be submitted to Malacanang after which "the onus will be on President Marcos."

Support for national reconciliation was expressed by leaders from the opposition political parties, the government, cause-oriented groups and business who attended yesterday's press forum at the Kapihan sa Maynila [Manila Coffeeshop].

However, the way to that goal which Labor Minister Blas Ople called "the vision that titillates us" was a hotly disputed topic with as many proposals as there are proponents in the lively Monday forum at the Manila Hotel.

Businessman Jose Concepcion, Jr. who heads the National Citizens Movement for Free Elections (Manfrel), said that "if we cannot achieve reconciliation before the elections, I shudder at the consequences."

During the 68th birthday mass at the Luneta for President Marcos, the Manila archbishop who led the concelebrated mass called for national reconciliation to which the president agreed in his address.

Mr Marcos appealed for unity, airing similar concerns for harmony in national life after which he and the cardinal, an arch critic, gave each other an embrace of peace.

The draft agenda, according to Concepcion, is to include scrapping the controversial decree powers of the president enshrined in Amendment 6 of the Constitution, abolition of the Preventive Detention Action, clean and honest elections and an independent judiciary.

Ople proposed that a political summit be held as a starting point for a national reconciliation talk, adding that the participants should make "a public confession of fallibility" as a precondition for a summit.

He proposed that political prisoner Jose Ma. Sison, identified as "chief theoretician" of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) be invited in the dialogue which should also involve President Marcos.

Ople said the [participants] should also initiate "an act of contrition" for sins done before the start of the summit.

Liberal Party co-president Eva Kalaw said the conciliation dialogue should involve the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan, the political opposition, the CPP, the military and the "parliament of the streets."

The five groups should first enter into a moratorium on political and military activities before coming to the dialogue, Kalaw said.

As a first sign of sincerity, Mr Marcos should order the release of all political detainees, Kalaw added.

Constitutional Convention [Concon] delegate Bren Guiao said a committee should be formed now to discuss the mechanics of the dialogue, apparently referring to who will participate and what topic should be taken up.

He said the creation of a committee will lay down the groundwork for the talk.

Another Concon delegate and head of Sandata Teofisto Guingona said the Marcos government should first release all political prisoners, scrap the PDA and Amendment No 6 and repatriate the hidden wealth overseas amassed by the Marcoses and his cronies before reconciliation talks are held.

CSO: 4200/13

PHILIPPINES

GAS EXPLOSION AT NUCLEAR PLANT REPORTED

HK301334 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 24 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

[Article by Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] The gas oxygen system of the first Philippine Nuclear Power Plant (PNPP-1) in Bataan exploded during the startup test last month and injured two operators, casting further doubt on the claim of the National Power Corp (NPC) that the 620-megawatt atomic plant is ready to be operated safely.

The explosion, which occurred in the afternoon of 14 August, injured NPC operators Bonifacio C. Balboa and Siegfredo U. Imperial, MALAYA sources said. Balboa suffered second-degree burns in the face, neck and arms, sources at the St Joseph Hospital in Balanga where he was confined for days told MALAYA. Imperial suffered first-degree burns, sources added.

Sources said the explosion occurred during the final testing of the waste gas system under the supervision of a certain Mr Bulacan, NPC equipment operator. Bulacan is said to be an experienced and competent gas system operator.

The valves that exploded were located outside the auxiliary building, sources said. They are said to be a safety-related feature of the plant designed to recombine hydrogen with oxygen to reduce heat in the reactor in case of accident.

According to MALAYA sources, the explosion happened when Balboa opened the manual valve "to pressurize the oxygen header."

When he noticed a spark come out of the valve stem, he immediately backed away but the explosion caught him, they said.

NPC reportedly ordered an investigation, which included design verification, and inspection of valves and switches, for evidence of combustible foreign bodies.

NPC was also reported to have asked for gas samples from all oxygen bottles at the yard station.

The explosion report appears to have bolstered the charge of oppositors that the Philippine Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) is protecting NPC from the public's inquiry on the real status of the PNPP-1.

PAEC has two resident inspectors at the atomic plant site who ought to have immediately relayed the incident to PAEC commissioners.

The explosion, however, was not discussed during the public hearings which ended last 22 August. PAEC's Department of Nuclear Regulations and Safeguards declared the plant safe and ready for operation.

PAEC was said to be ready to grant NPC a license to load the uranium fuel when the Supreme Court restrained it 29 August upon representations of the oppositors who want the public hearings reopened.

CSO: 4200/13

PHILIPPINES

IMF APPROVAL SOUGHT ON HIGHER BUDGET DEFICIT CEILING

HK271151 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 26 Sep 85 p 8

[Article by Raul Marcelo]

[Text] The government has asked the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a higher budget deficit ceiling of up to 1.4 percent of gross national product (GNP) or about P[peso]8.7 billion from the present ceiling of P6.2 billion for 1985, Prime Minister Cesar Virata said yesterday.

The increase will be used by the government in its pump priming activities to stimulate businesses under the so-called "new reflation program," Virata said.

The government has noted that the IMF's conditions on fiscal and monetary targets have constricted economic activity to an extent that businesses could hardly pick up.

Virata also said the major requirements being sought by the IMF prior to the release of the third tranche of its credit facility equivalent to 106 million in special drawing rights (SDR) or \$110 million have already been made.

"We have basically resolved the issues on sugar and coconut," Virata explained, referring to the structural reforms needed for the two industries, like the transfer of their marketing aspects to the private sector.

This makes the release of the IMF credit more likely to be approved by the Fund's executive board which will meet on the country's request tomorrow, 27 September.

The approval by the IMF will in turn trigger the release of the second portion of the \$925-million new money from the foreign commercial banks amounting to \$400 million.

Virata also denied reports that the government submitted a 61-page revised letter of intent to the IMF as claimed during the meeting of the Presidential Productivity Council (PPC) in Malacanang last 18 September.

The supposed 61 pages being referred to as the revised letter of intent are the number of pages in the National Internal Revenue Code that will have to be compressed once the government adopts the turnover tax scheme, he explained.

On foreign debts, Virata said that the government will renegotiate next year the restructuring of the \$4.5-billion in short-term trade credits used by businesses that were frozen when a moratorium on foreign debt payments was declared by the government in October 1983.

CSO: 4200/13

PHILIPPINES

IMF HOLDS MEETING TO ASSESS EXCHANGE RATE SYSTEM

HK271145 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 26 Sep 85 p 3

[Article by Rigoberto Tiglao]

[Text] The International Monetary Fund's (IMF) executive board met in Washington, D.C. yesterday (late evening yesterday Manila time) to determine whether the Philippine Government is implementing a free exchange rate system as required under the general guidelines of the Fund. The board meeting was also expected to consider the recommendation of the IMF staff which assessed the country's exchange rate system about 2 months ago in what in Fund parlance is referred to as "Ayowel IV consultations."

The IMF executive board--which is effectively the Fund's highest policy-making body--was also scheduled to act on the Philippine Government's request for it to consider the first program review as completed and to release the third credit tranche amounting to 106 million special drawing rights (\$110 million).

Prime Minister Cesar Virata yesterday said he is "hopeful" that the IMF will release the third credit tranche.

BUSINESS DAY sources in the international financial community, however, claimed that it is doubtful whether the IMF executive board will approve the release of the third credit tranche since agreements with the Fund management on certain changes in the economic stabilization program have not been firmed up. Virata himself yesterday told BUSINESS DAY that although agreements with the Fund management regarding the structural reforms in the sugar and coconut industries "have been reached in principle," certain aspects of the reform program for these two sectors still have to be ironed out with the IMF.

With regard to the budget deficit which constitutes one of the performance criteria of the Fund, Budget Minister Manuel S. Alba yesterday also pointed out that "negotiations with the IMF are still ongoing" on the government's request for a higher budget deficit this year than was committed earlier.

A bigger budget deficit is critical to the government's recovery program since this would allow pump priming of the economy through increased government expenditures. Virata yesterday noted that proposed government spendings in construction are "intended (to serve) as an impetus for reviving industry."

An IMF board decision reproving the Philippine Government for maintaining exchange restrictions that result in an overvaluation of the peso's rate--as the IMF board did in last year's Article IV consultations--will mean that the Central Bank [CB] will have to stop whatever form of intervention it is undertaking with regard to the exchange rate. This could lead to a depreciation of the peso's rate in the coming months.

Monetary authorities have repeatedly pointed out that the peso's exchange rate is being determined purely by market forces, and that the high peso interest rates coupled with low import demand stabilized the peso in the first semester at roughly the P[peso]18.6:\$1 level. However, one indication of the government's heavy involvement in the exchange rate is the fact that from June up to the other day, the CB's dollar purchases at the Bankers Association of the Philippines (BAP) foreign exchange trading floor plus those of its conduits, the Philippine National Bank (PNB) and the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), amounted to \$379.8 million or 69 percent of total transactions. Also, peso interest rates--in so far as these are reflected by the rates on the Treasury and CB bills--have gone down below the 18 percent level from the 30 percent range about 6 months ago without substantially affecting the exchange rate. Bankers' fears that a fall in the yields of the government bills would put pressure on the exchange rate since the cost of pesos for purchasing dollars will decrease, have so far not materialized.

BUSINESS DAY about 2 months ago said that the IMF management had been urging a depreciation of the peso as a means of boosting exports, a report which was confirmed to some extent by a statement made by Fund representative Hubert Neiss in the July meeting of the consultative group subcommittee that "the exchange rate policy will have to play a major role in (the government's export promotion drive)."

Monetary officials, however, are confident that there will be no major peso depreciation within the year. Recently asked to comment on the report that the IMF was pressing for a peso depreciation to hike exports, CB Governor Jose B. Fernandez Jr. evaded confirming the report although he emphasized that there is a view within the CB that a depreciation will not automatically boost exports since exporters' costs would also increase because a substantial portion of their inputs are imported.

The government last week rushed the submission of its letter of intent to the IMF stipulating its revised economic program, in the expectation that the Fund's board will approve it so that the third credit tranche can be released. BUSINESS DAY sources, however, doubt that the new economic program was endorsed by the IMF management.

The release of the third IMF credit portion will allow the country's commercial bank creditors to release the second \$400 million installment of its new loan to the country. If the IMF board fails to approve the country's revised economic program, it is expected to act on it again by late next month at the earliest since it will be busy in the coming weeks with the annual IMF-World Bank meetings. CB officials, however, are confident that the slight delay will not mean a disruption of its foreign exchange budget since the CB has built up its foreign exchange reserves to \$1.7 billion, sufficient enough to meet interest payments falling due as well as to settle other arrearages (including the \$300-million blocked remittances for such payments as those for airline and shipping companies' revenues).

CSO: 4200/13

PHILIPPINES

IMF POSTPONES REQUEST FOR FUND DRAWDOWN

HK280646 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 27 Sep 85 p 21

[Text] Central Bank Governor Jose B. Fernandez Jr disclosed yesterday that the Philippines has fully complied with "every single quantitative criteria" required by the International Monetary Fund for the drawing of the third tranche of \$106 million from the currency credit facility with the fund.

However, he said, the IMF executive board postponed consideration of the Philippine request for the drawdown pending conclusion of discussions between the Philippine Government and the IMF on certain structural adjustments in the coconut and sugar sectors and in tax reforms.

Discussions between the two parties on these "qualitative performance criteria" will continue in Seoul, South Korea next week, where the IMF and the World Bank boards of governors are holding their annual meetings.

Fernandez expects the IMF to make the release of the third tranche from the stand-by credit facility as soon as agreement is reached on the structural reforms contemplated for the sugar and coconut industries and the tax reform which may be sometime this month.

Failure by the Philippines to draw on the third tranche from the IMF stand by credit facility means that the release of the second installment of \$175 million from the \$925 million new money facility from commercial banks will likewise be held back, sources in the foreign banking community said yesterday.

Had the IMF disbursement not been a problem, the Philippines would have drawn the new money installment by next week.

The sources said that the Philippine Government failed to convince the executive board of the IMF to ease the ceiling on budget deficit this year.

The government, noting the decline in revenues caused by the slowdown on business activity which was itself caused by the IMF-imposed monetary tightening, had earlier asked the IMF to relax the original ceiling of one percent of GNP for its budget deficit this year. The relaxation would have meant an increase in fiscal deficit spending to P8.6 billion from P6.2 billion this year.

CSO: 4200/13

PHILIPPINES

VIRATA COUNTERS IMF CONDITIONS AT MEETING

HK080943 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 7 Oct 85 p 2

[By Conrado Banal III]

[Text] In the business sector and even in government, Prime Minister Cesar Virata is called an "IMF boy." It is a label he probably detests.

Yet his involvement in the country's recent dealings with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) may have earned him that name. The main criticism in the way government runs the economy is that its program is too subservient to the IMF wishes, to the point of producing economic miseries in the country. Virata, naturally, gets in the forefront of such a criticism.

But recently, during the meeting of representatives to the IMF and the World Bank from Latin America, Spain, and the Philippines, Virata gave no praises for the global approach to debt problems of developing countries like the Philippines. The solutions, which he called an "ad hoc" approach, are closely linked with IMF-imposed programs without which those countries cannot hope to get funding support from outside.

His remarks during the meeting are viewed in the business community as an indirect assault at IMF conditions. In effect, Virata told the group that the bias in IMF conditions, which are more often set on developing countries (the borrowers from the IMF) and rarely, if at all, on industrialized countries (the funders of the IMF) should be corrected. He warned that the "risk of an unmanageable (international) debt crisis is becoming greater."

The severity of IMF conditions for borrowings is not a new issue among its members. They have been contested during the joint IMF-World Bank annual meetings in the past years. But the inability of developing countries to get out of their present debt mess despite such IMF conditions, appears to be amplifying a cry among debtor-countries for similar reforms in industrialized nations.

Virata's critics in the business sector noted, perhaps with cynicism, that his attacking stance came at the heels of an IMF executive board's decision to defer the third drawing of the Philippines from its standby credit line with the IMF.

On the same day Virata delivered his speech, President Marcos offered similar views about the futility of the developing world's efforts to correct their debt positions without commensurate actions in the industrialized countries. "It seemed a team-up in fighting back the IMF," one said.

Others however said that Virata, and the other countries with debt problems may have reason enough to call for drastic changes in the international economic order.

In his talk, Virata cited these "disquieting developments":

--Export growth of developing countries is expected to slow down to 1.5 percent this year, compared to a growth rate of 8.5 percent last year. (The Philippine exports have dropped during the past semester.)

--Prices of primary commodities are expected to decline by 9 percent this year, which could put the terms of trade in favor of buyers of those commodities--the industrialized world.

--Despite "strenuous adjustment measures" undertaken by developing countries, international banks are not resuming "normal" lendings to them.

--Interest rates on loans of developing countries, as compared to inflation rates in the industrialized grouping, are as high as ever.

Virata indicated that these are threats to the orderly solution of the international debt crisis. The IMF-designed programs for countries with debt problems mainly aim to create trade surplus to allow them to pay those debts. But Virata noted that such programs cannot be sustained "if no one in the global system is prepared to take up the counterpart deficit." A trade surplus to one country automatically means a trade deficit to another. "The combination of restrictive austerity measures, insufficient financing and inability to attain external surpluses has severely impaired the recovery prospects of developing countries."

Virata's observations are valid for the Philippines in particular, economists in the private sector said. The United States has reduced the quota for its sugar purchase from the Philippines, for instance.

Yet the need for putting order in the domestic economy cannot be set aside. Those in the business community, who are the first to feel the pain of that necessity, may agree with him.

PHILIPPINES

RAPID DETERIORATION OF ECONOMY PREDICTED

HK010048 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 27 Sep 85 pp 5, 8

[By Noel de Luna]

[Text] British political risk analysts have suddenly turned their attention to the Philippines to inform their corporate clients about investment prospects in the country.

The picture presented by two think tanks--Intermatrix Information Services, Ltd and Control Risks Information Services--have not been flattering for the Philippine Government which claims that the country is on the road to economic recovery.

The Asian Strategies Co of the Intermatrix Group, making its forecast for the next 3 years, started from the assumption "that none of the fundamental problems in the economy is properly addressed during the next 3 years by any government, because of the domestic hardship--and hence the political risks--which will be involved."

"As a result, the economy will rapidly deteriorate into a Latin-American style high-inflation/no growth pattern," it said.

Control Risks, on the other hand, believes that, "over the next year, the most probable scenario is a continuation of the present authoritarian but ailing regime. To delay its collapse, it will implement repressive measures which will impede the development of democratic government and, in the long term, promote the cause of the radical left. The economy will continue to flag."

Both think-tanks emphasize political factors as the key to their forecasts.

Intermatrix "does not seriously believe that the government will do anything of the kind (genuine reforms). But the track record makes it plain that it is capable of creating the illusion of reform; for example, by making a show of an agreement with the International Monetary Fund and by taking a few well-publicized steps along the road of reform. But as the hardship of real reform begins to bite at the president's (Marcos) political base at home, the country will revert to the methods seen so far."

Intermatrix based its conclusion on the argument that the underlying weakness in the current economic structure means that continued injections of pesos into the economy will be needed if a severe short-term decline in living standards is to be avoided.

Eventually such an approach leads to a contraction of the economy in real terms, but along a much more gradual path than would be the case if austerity measures were now put in place.

The price for such an approach, argued Intermatrix, is a much higher rate of inflation later, and the knowledge that, when austerity measures are imposed, their impact will be much more severe.

"By taking the decision to avoid austerity measures," Intermatrix said, "the government has only allowed things to get worse, and in 1985 the discomfort and the risks look even more forbidding."

"The inflation rate has been allowed to rise from 12 percent in late 1983 to around 50 percent at the end of 1984, and getting it back under control will be even more unpleasant."

"So with each passing day the political risks involved in proper economic management will increase, and the chances of any attempt by the current leadership to implement the required reforms will shrink," it said.

Intermatrix thinks that the necessary economic decisions are likely to be made under a post-Marcos government.

"Even here, however, many of the same problems remain. A new leadership attempting to consolidate support for itself would have more credibility than Marcos in announcing such steps, but would face the political spin-offs of a rapid and severe decline in living standards," it said.

Control Risk's forecasts are no different from Intermatrix as it feels that, "In 5 years' time, Marcos will have left the scene. In 2 years after his departure [word indistinct] could be replaced by either an authoritarian continuation of the present regime or some form of democratic government. Neither will be stable and the New People's Army will be building up its campaign in the wings."

"The present regime or a successor oligarchy could not last until 1995. Given skillful leadership and good fortune a democratic government may have consolidated its control. The alternative, at least equally likely, is a takeover by the NPA."

Control Risks based its forecast on the assumption that the frailty of the Philippine's political institutions, the trend towards political polarization, the perilous state of the economy and a tradition of violence would militate against a smooth transition of power when Marcos goes and reduces the chances of stability in the next decade.

Political instability will discourage foreign investments and lead to shortages of foreign exchange. Even governments which, like the present one, are in principle supportive of foreign business could in practice impose restrictions on profit repatriation though nationalization will become an issue only in the event of an NPA takeover, it said.

Despite the gloomy scenarios, both think-tanks have also pointed out some areas of business concerns that foreign investors could enter.

Said Control Risks: "For foreign business a democratic regime would be preferable and, given reasonable prosperity, would facilitate operations. Under an NPA regime the scope would be more limited but some varieties of foreign business, especially those involved in technology transfers, would still be invited to operate."

Intermatrix, on the other hand, noted the special case of foreign banks that have lent money to the Philippines. Intermatrix believes that some major foreign banks that do not have full representation in the Philippines could "use the current crisis to correct this."

Since the Philippines has been restructuring the financial system by merging the small banks with the big banks, there will come a time when the merged banks will need technical assistance.

Intermatrix recommends that "a handful of foreign banks will be able to take advantage of this situation and particularly of the parlous state of many local houses, by offering to supply them with the necessary management skills and capital, in exchange for a significant market presence. While this inevitably involves additional exposure in the Philippines, it offers the prospect of obtaining a local banking license."

Another area of opportunity looms for United States banks which could provide assistance in earning foreign exchange and imported inputs for trading companies that will hopefully sprout.

Finally, foreign banks could play an active role in marketing assets of companies in which the government has converted its loans into equity since foreign buyers, instead of paying cash for those assets, would simply assume a portion of the country's external debt.

The important thing for foreign banks to do is to "get an agreement from the Philippine Government that any assumption of debts under the sale will benefit the bank that put the deal together."

CSO: 4200/22

PHILIPPINES

ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE, GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ANALYZED

HK010518 Hong Kong AFP in English 0313 GMT 1 Oct 85

[By Teodoro Benigno]

[Text] Manila, Oct 1 (AFP)--The Philippine Government is tugging nightly at the oars of economic recovery but progress is agonizingly slow in a resource-rich country still haunted by the murder of Benigno Aquino 2 years ago.

For the second straight year, the economy is widely expected to contract in 1985 by 3 to 4 percent, a snail's crawl compared to 1984's 5.5 percent shrinkage that earned the country the title Asia's "sick man."

The government's recovery chart had projected zero to 1 percent progress in 1985 gross national product, a 10 percent increase in exports, and businessmen scrambling to grab \$3 billion in new trade credits.

Instead, exports fell by 10.6 percent in the first semester of 1985 while President Ferdinand Marcos last week virtually had to appeal to the business community to take advantage of the \$3 billion bonanza.

Even as Mr Marcos ticked off recovery signs like inflation down to 15.8 percent from a zenith of 63 percent in mid-1984, international reserves up at \$1.749 billion from last December's \$886 million, and the peso stabilizing at 18.60 to the dollar, the business mood remained downbeat.

This mood fed on other semi-official statistics that starkly contrasted with Mr Marcos' rosy interpretation. These were led by a declining per capita income which stood at \$773 in 1982, \$656 in 1983 and \$604 in 1984.

Comparable 1984 per capita figures in the other five members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations were \$800 for Thailand, \$2,041 for Malaysia, Singapore \$6,150, Brunei \$20,000 and Indonesia \$500.

Even more dismal was the rich-poor gap in income distribution. In the last quarter of 1983, the richest 12.9 percent of all households in Manila snared 17 times the income of the poorest 12.4 percent.

Things got much worse in the second quarter of 1994 when the incomes of the richest 10.4 percent of the household population soared to 37 times those of the poorest 10.9 percent.

Sixty-one percent of Filipinos, or 33 million out of 54 million people were on or beyond the family poverty line, which was estimated at 2,052 pesos monthly (\$125 U.S.).

Unemployment varied from the government's 8 to the semi-official 16 percent, a figure expected to increase as 700,000 workers are added to the labor force annually.

The 1965 table on merchandise exports had the Philippines leading five countries with \$796 million, outperforming South Korea with \$175 million, Taiwan \$450 million, Thailand \$603 million, and Indonesia \$633 million.

In 1982, the Philippines plummeted to the bottom with \$5.7 billion, while South Korea soared to \$21.0 billion, Taiwan to \$22.0 billion, Thailand to \$7.0 billion and Indonesia to \$23.3 billion, according to BUSINESS DAY newspaper.

A key to the Philippines' woobly economic performance was the fact that in the 1974-81 period, net foreign investments contributed only 9 percent to the country's capital account balance. This is the lowest in ASEAN.

Next to South Korea, the Philippines has the second-highest foreign debt in Asia with \$25.2 billion. The debt service amounts to between \$2.5 and \$2.8 billion annually or about 40 percent of total exports.

The private center for research and communication maintains that Philippine short-term debt amounts to 47 percent of total foreign debt, 'the worst', since South America's 'basket cases' are Brazil with 16.4 percent, Chile 10.2, Argentina 21.2 and Mexico 27.2 percent.

Nonetheless, the Philippine Government remains optimistic that economic recovery is just around the corner.

Many leaders of the business community however argue the Philippines' problem is political, not economic, and no straining at the economic oars can move the country forward unless major political reforms are launched.

First on their political agenda is ferreting out the killers of opposition leader Benigno Aquino, whose death in August 1983 triggered the massive flight of capital from the country and the subsequent economic collapse.

Second is the end of 'crony capitalism.' By this they mean the ouster of 'businessmen cronies' of the government who, they say, have virtually cornered the high peaks of the economy, leaving legitimate business little to work with.

Third is the 'restoration of democratic processes' in the 20-year-old authoritarian regime of Mr Marcos, which largely means 'clean, honest and fair' elections free of the alleged irregularities that attended past polls.

Fourth is the end of the president's emergency powers to legislate, arrest and imprison anybody without due process of law. The 68-year-old president says he needs these powers to deal with mounting communist insurgency.

CSO: 4200/22

PHILIPPINES

AUSTRALIAN LABOR GROUP HITS TUCP, RECOGNIZES KIMU

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 29 Sep 85 p 2

[Article: "Aussies Back RP Laborers"]

[Text]

Organized labor in Australia, saying they view "with grave concern" the mounting abuse of trade union rights in the Philippines, warned yesterday that it would hold industrial protest actions to support Filipino workers.

The Australian Congress of Trade Unions, the major labor center in Australia, urged the Australian government to cease all military aid to the Philippines and instead channel assistance to non-government agencies "to avoid giving any legitimacy to the Marcos government."

In a resolution, the ACTU agreed to "take all necessary actions, including industrial actions, to support trade union rights in the Philippines."

The ACTU lambasted the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines "for its failure to defend trade union rights, particularly TUCP's leaders' explicit support to the jailing of other trade union leaders, and called on the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions to investigate the TUCP."

The ACTU expressed their recognition "to the leading role of the Kilusang Mayo Uno in defending trade union rights."

The ACTU urged the Australian government to allocate resources to the Australian embassy to monitor the practices of Australian companies.

The ACTU said the proposed aid cut to the Philippines was prompted by "the role of the military in suppressing strikes and other legitimate protest actions."

PHILIPPINES

POLL SHOWS AMBIGUITY IN PHILIPPINE OPINIONS

HK300336 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 29 Sep 85 p 7

[Article by Harvey Stockwin: "Vague Voice of Filipino Dissent"]

[Text] Recently, on a Davao newspaper, a Filipino columnist unburdened himself on the joys of using the same urinal as President Ferdinand Marcos. The article could have been a witty satire on where the Philippines has ended up after Marcos's 20 years in office. It wasn't.

The piece could have been a sincere tribute to the President's charisma. It wasn't that either.

After reading the piece forwards and backwards, and between the lines (traditionally, a vital skill in interpreting much Philippine commentary) I was still mystified about the author's true intention.

The column was neither a well-directed, pungent political criticism, nor the ultimate expression of the Marcos personality cult.

But it was very Filipino. It was ambiguous.

More than in most countries, ambiguity is woven into the very texture of Philippine social or political intercourse. The clear-cut, the definitive, the purposeful and the direct invariably lose out to the ill-defined, the vague and the indirect.

You meet ambiguity all the time. Cardinal Jaime Sin has been to the fore in suggesting that it is high time Marcos moved out of Malacanang--but there he was, resuming blessing the president in his palace on Marcos's birthday.

A columnist well-known for his criticism of the president likewise ended up a recent effort by effusively wishing him many happy returns.

The ruling KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan] party recently announced that there would be no snap election this year. But it added that the president was free to call such an election at any time of his own choosing.

For those addicted to black-and-white realities, the Philippines can be extremely frustrating.

"Yes" or "No" usually give way to "maybe" or are used in ways that negate their meaning. Direct questions invariably draw forth murky grey answers.

Politeness is frequently construed as requiring that others are told what it is thought they want to hear, rather than what is true.

All told, Philippine ambiguity creates a potential nightmare for conscientious opinion-poll takers.

So two cheers for the recent release of a sampling of Philippine public opinion which ended up conveying a clear sense of the contradictory murkiness.

The poll was conducted for the Bishops-Businessmen's Conference for Human Development [BBCHD], for the second year running.

Great care was taken in conducting the poll. The sample was nationwide, making it possible to compare the answers from different parts of the archipelago. Contrasting responses from the sexes, different age-groups and educational backgrounds are also provided.

The BBCHD adopted the technique of providing statements to which those polled could respond positively, negatively or ambiguously. All interviews with respondents were conducted by carefully instructed personnel. The result is an engrossing insight into Philippine "collective opinion."

As BBCHD points out in its report on the survey "...collective opinion is never unanimous, never totally black or totally white. Experience shows that opinions are pluralistic..."

Put another way, the poll-takers don't try to simplify Philippine public opinion. Instead, they grapple with its complexity. Ambiguity is clearly on view as a consequence. (See Table 1.)

Filipinos unambiguously reject President Marcos's continued use of two authoritarian powers (decrees, detention) but a slim plurality favours the return of authoritarianism via martial law.

Looking to the coming 12 months, a slim plurality is optimistic that things will get better. Looking back, the nation decisively concludes that things have got worse (See Table 2).

A clear majority of Filipinos believes that many or very many of their fellow countrymen will vote for Marcos if he runs again. But the poll also shows deep pessimism over future peaceful democratic progress.

The absence of "undecideds" (as distinct from "don't know" or "no response") on certain key issues speaks volumes for, and underlines, the political consciousness of Filipinos.

The presence of large numbers of "undecideds" on many of the issues in Table 1 consequently takes on added meaning. Notwithstanding these, and other ambiguities in the detailed poll results, the Marcos drum-beaters have used it extensively both within and without the Philippines.

This has been largely because a useful plurality of 44 percent were "satisfied" with the president's performance, as against 25 percent "dissatisfied."

Only in the urban areas of Mindanao was there a plurality of dissatisfaction (36 percent to 33 percent) while in rural Luzon Marcos actually got a satisfied majority, 55 to 13 percent.

First Lady Mrs Imelda Marcos did even better nationwide, 50 to 23 percent satisfied/dissatisfied. Mrs Marcos secured approval everywhere.

Both the president and his wife did significantly better among people poorer than in the middle to upper class. Not surprisingly, Filipinas gave Mrs Marcos a greater degree of approval than Filipinos.

Whether these results deserved so much out-of-context attention from Malacanang's PR flunkies is doubtful. Presumably, since the Philippine skies are generally dark, even a grey cloud must look like sunshine.

Yet the poll results could be used more easily to show the enormous damage done to the Philippines by 20 years of Marcos family rule.

The responses on freedom of expression clearly show how far Marcos has gone towards destroying the Philippines as a free and open society. Twenty years ago Filipinos as a whole were more confident of enjoying the right to say anything, without fear or favour, than any other Asians. Today only a third of the poll respondents retain that self-confidence.

If you are "undecided" about your basic freedoms, it is hardly likely that you are confident of enjoying them. In this question the "undecideds" and the "disagrees" are both indicating that they do not feel free to saying anything without fear of the consequences, even if those comments are against the government.

Leave aside that this certainly vitiates those positive ratings for the Marcos performance. Seventy-four percent of Filipinas (the "undecideds" plus the "disagrees"), 60 percent of Filipinos, 66 percent of the nation fear to say what they think, either affirmatively or tentatively.

Sixty-six percent of Filipinos in Manila, 67 percent in urban Luzon, 71 percent in rural Luzon, 54 percent in urban Visayas, 60 percent in rural Visayas, 58 percent in urban Mindanao, 71 percent in rural Mindanao--these emphatic majorities say that freedom has fled.

Most of the Philippines' old anti-communism has disappeared along with freedom. The old decisive majorities against legalisation of the Communist Party, which would have been recorded if there had been polls like this 20 years ago, have been eroded.

More disturbing yet, a small plurality nationwide (28 to 20) considers the violent activities of the NPA to be justifiable. This plurality is sustained in every region.

It is largest in Metro Manila (32 to 21 percent), rural Luzon (27 to 14 percent) and rural Visayas (32 to 22 percent). Everywhere, a majority of Filipinos find it prudent to be undecided on this key question.

In urban Visayas and urban Mindanao, no less than 43 percent agree that the NPA is a pervasive presence. Only in rural and urban Luzon (outside Manila) is the NPA not [in italics] considered to have a widespread network, by a small plurality.

In all the answers on communism, the number of "undecideds" is stunning. This further emphasises the basic story told by the statistics. Twenty years ago, communism was a marginal blip in Philippine political consciousness. Thirteen years after Marcos declared martial law, in part to wipe out the communist threat, that threat is becoming more real.

The large numbers of "undecideds" may mean that many are not sure how bad the situation is, or are afraid to be explicit. As the survey comments: "It is possible that part of the hesitation to agree or disagree is latent sympathy for the NPA."

The poll shows that the NPA still has a long way to go as a political force but it also illustrates that the communists have forced themselves into the Filipino's political consciousness.

The Americans retain a strong niche in that consciousness. Nowhere in the archipelago is there a plurality in favour of removing the U.S. bases. But the sizeable number of "undecideds" suggests a more ambiguous reading, and the Filipinos could swing either way.

Faith in U.S. good intentions remains strong, but almost certainly diminished. That faith weakens in the younger age-groups. But faith that the U.S. means well does not extend to strong belief that Washington is putting pressure on Marcos vis-a-vis future elections.

Shrewdly, and probably accurately, a majority of "undecideds" imply that the U.S. may not be making the best use of its residual good will.

Yet the fact that the U.S. still looms so significantly in Philippine perceptions can hardly be a source of satisfaction for a president who has prided himself on his nationalist professions.

Meanwhile, all over the Visayas and Mindanao a clear majority has lost faith in peaceful democratic progress, rising to 59 percent in urban Mindanao.

Only in rural Luzon are there more than one-fifth of Filipinos who will say such a loss of faith is not possible.

Everywhere, those who are ambiguous on this key issue of national confidence outnumber the assured by two or three to one.

Lump the ambiguous with the pessimistic, and the optimists are outnumbered at worst 90 to 10 percent in rural Mindanao and, at best, 73 to 22 percent in rural Luzon. (See Table 3)

These answers graphically illustrate the demoralisation ensuing from the Marcos years.

An ambiguous, but very pointed message is thus being sent to Malacanang via the BBCHD report. The sycophants there probably make sure that Marcos himself does not receive it.

Table 1. How Filipinos See Things (Figures in brackets are for Metro Manila)

<u>Give Statement</u>	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>Undecided</u>
Freedom of Expression			
I can say anything without fear even if it is anti-administration	33 (34)	29 (33)	37 (33)
On the Communists			
The NPA network is widespread in this province/city	28 (34)	26 (26)	43 (40)
Most of the people in this province/ city do not sympathise with the NPA	28 (33)	23 (22)	47 (45)
Most NPA activities are not justifiable	20 (21)	28 (32)	50 (46)
The Communist Party should be legalised	20 (21)	44 (52)	34 (27)
In this province/city an election candidate not supported by the NPA will find it hard to win	16 (15)	35 (45)	45 (40)
On the Americans			
The U.S. Government has demands on the president and the KBL which are linked to the coming elections	27 (25)	17 (19)	52 (54)

<u>Statement</u>	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>Undecided</u>
Most of what the U.S. Government wants to happen in the Philippines is good for the Filipinos	51 (40)	15 (24)	33 (36)
The U.S. military bases should be kept/tolerated in the Philippines	43 (48)	23 (22)	34 (30)

On Politics

Should the president have the power to issue decrees	34 (40)	61 (57)	--
Should the president have the power of ordering Preventive Detention	30 (32)	65 (63)	
It will be good for the country if the president proclaims Martial Law again	37 (34)	33 (43)	30 (23)
The nation is run by a few powerful, and ordinary citizens cannot do much	37 (41)	25 (26)	37 (33)

<u>Will Get Better</u>	<u>Will Get Worse</u>	<u>Will not Change</u>
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On the Future

Quality of life in the coming 12 months	36 (45)	26 (16)	34 (34)
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<u>Very Many</u>	<u>Very Few</u>
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How many do you think will vote for Ferdinand Marcos if he runs for president again?	52 (56)	37 (37)
How many do you think will vote for Imelda Marcos if she runs for president?	46 (51)	42 (43)

<u>Possible</u>	<u>Not Possible</u>	<u>Undecided</u>
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Will Filipinos eventually lose faith in peaceful means of promoting democracy?	42 (42)	17 (14)	39 (43)
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Table 2. The Nation Declines

Asked to compare their present quality of life to 12 months ago, all over the Philippines. The past seemed rosier than the present.

<u>Area</u>	<u>Better Now</u>	<u>Better Before</u>
Metro Manila	9	57
Urban Luzon	13	52
Rural Luzon	6	48
Urban Visayas	6	67
Rural Visayas	6	64
Urban Mindanao	12	67
Rural Mindanao	8	64
Nationwide	9	57

Table 3. Demoralisation Index

- a. Those who feel it is possible Filipinos will eventually lose faith in peaceful democratic change plus those who are undecided.
- b. Those who flatly reject such pessimism.

<u>Area</u>	<u>a Percent</u>	<u>b Percent</u>
Metro Manila	85	14
Urban Luzon	79	16
Rural Luzon	73	22
Urban Visayas	84	12
Rural Visayas	82	18
Urban Mindanao	86	14
Rural Mindanao	90	10
Nationwide	81	17

CSO: 4200/13

PHILIPPINES

COMMUNISTS CALL FOR VENGEANCE FOR RALLY DEATHS

HK071059 Hong Kong AFP in English 1038 GMT 7 Oct 85

[Text] Bacolod, Philippines, Oct 7 (AFP)--The communist underground today launched a propaganda offensive over an attack by troops on a protest rally near here last month, urging revenge against alleged masterminds of the at least 20 slayings.

A policeman was reported injured in a shootout with members of a propaganda team early today in a nearby town.

Meanwhile, some 200 priests, nuns and church workers launched a fast here to protest the alleged rally massacre and seek justice for the victims.

At least 20 rallyists--the biggest death toll in a protest activity since President Ferdinand Marcos came to power in 1965--were killed by troopers and militiamen in Escalante Town near this central capital on September 20.

The National Democratic Front (NDF), led by the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), issued the call for vengeance in a statement which accused a big landowner and a military official of responsibility for the slayings.

The military says troopers and militiamen were forced to open fire because the rallyists had turned into an unruly mob some of them were armed [as received].

The radical alliance Bayan, which sponsored the rally, has claimed a death toll of 27, but only 20 fatalities could be independently confirmed.

An NDF statement distributed today said: "The blood of martyrs in Escalante has led to the expansion of the revolutionary movement by a hundredfold and has given a new impetus to the rapid advance of our revolutionary struggle."

Meanwhile, in the nearby town of Murcia, a policeman was reported injured today shortly after midnight in a shootout with some 15 members of a communist propaganda team painting walls with slogans denouncing the Escalante killings.

Police said the team traded shots with patrolman Romulo Berondo as he chased them after they finished painting slogans and pasting posters on town walls.

The New People's Army (NPA), the CPP'S estimated 12,000-strong guerrilla force, has grown dramatically here in this Negyos Island since the sugar industry went into a severe slump last year.

Some 200 priests, nuns and church workers today started a two-day fast here and also pointed to the landowner and military commander as the "main culprits" in the Escalante incident.

Protest leader Father Felix, reacting to the landowner's statement that the choice in Negyos was between democracy and communism, said: "The issue today is not between communism and democracy as he claims but between dictatorship and democracy."

"We cannot equate democracy with the present repressive system," he said.

CSO: 4200/57

PHILIPPINES

DAILY: MILITARY SUSPECTS CIA ROLE IN TAWI-TAWI RAID

HK070253 Hong Kong AFP in English 0219 GMT 7 Oct 85

[Text] Manila, Oct 7 (AFP)--Filipino military officials are looking into the possible involvement of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in a raid on a southern Philippine isle last week, the METRO MANILA TIMES said here today.

The pro-government newspaper, believed to have access to top official levels, quoted unnamed sources as saying that the military was suspecting Malaysian mercenaries organized by the CIA for "unsavory purposes."

A Philippine marine general initially charged that Malaysian troops aboard helicopters and gunboats killed or kidnapped a total of 53 people in a southern Philippine isle shortly after a September 23 attack by suspected Filipino pirates on Lahad Datu Town in Malaysia's Sabah State.

But the disclosure of Brigadier General Arturo Asuncion in the southern city of Zamboanga was followed by two days of mysterious official silence in Manila, which has not filed any protest with Kuala Lumpur.

Foreign Ministry spokesmen were unavailable for immediate comment today.

The only official statement so far by the Philippine Government, released last Thursday, said unnamed "forces" were trying to divide The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which includes the Philippines and Malaysia, on the eve of a UN debate on the Cambodian problem.

"Pending a full verification of the facts, the (Foreign Ministry) appeals to the public to remain calm and not to exacerbate the situation. There are forces that would like to create an incident between the Philippines and Malaysia," it said.

Western diplomats quoting Filipino officials earlier said Vietnam was initially suspected of involvement but was later ruled out. The military's report to President Marcos on the incident has not been released, and Mr Marcos has not made any public statement on the issue.

The recent border incidents revived the issue of the 23-year-old Philippine claim to oil- and timber-rich Sabah. President Marcos verbally dropped the claim at the ASEAN summit in Kuala Lumpur in 1977 but Manila has not made a formal renunciation.

PHILIPPINES

MNLF DECLARES RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION

HK080929 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 25 Sep 85 p 9

[By Jam Maridul]

[Text] The Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) has asked the world community, especially the Southeast Asian countries, to support the Bangsa Moro people's birthright to self-determination and national independence, declaring that the emergence of the "Bangsa Moro Republik" in the south is now only a matter of time.

In a communique furnished MALAYA, the leadership of the MNLF, including its military arm, the Bangsa Moro Army (BMA), renewed its vow to pursue uncompromisingly and to "fight till the end of time and to the last man" to regain what they call the freedom and sovereignty of the Bangsa Moro nation.

The communique contained the proceedings and decisions of the Fourth General Meeting of the MNLF national and regional leaders held last March 5 at a still undisclosed place. Nur Misuari, chairman of the front's central committee and reputedly the brain of the Bangsa Moro revolution, reportedly presided over the meeting.

In asking for the support of the international community, the MNLF warned that the trouble in southern Philippines may yet slip out of hand and become a veritable threat to peace and stability of the region and the world at large. The MNLF urged the ASEAN to reexamine their position vis-a-vis the Philippine Government, a member of ASEAN.

The Philippines has been getting a sympathetic attitude from fellow ASEAN countries in her policies toward the MNLF'S struggle for national independence and self-determination for the Muslims in Mindanao and Sulu.

Malaysia and Indonesia, both members of the influential 43-nation Islamic Conference Organization, are known to be supporters of the Philippine Government in the forum of Islamic countries.

Claiming success in the 17-year-old revolution and noting the economic, social and political crises that grips the Manila Government, the communique

signed by Misuari and top MNLF officials stressed that nationwide preparation is now afoot "to unleash the final deathblow in order to hasten the liquidation of Philippine colonialism in the Bangsa Moro homeland".

The meeting also acknowledged the support and recognition by some groups and organizations in the Philippines of the legitimacy of the MNLF'S cause. It said that "the speed with which Filipino armed progressive and democratic opposition forces have unfolded in the Visayas and Luzon augurs well for the launching of the final phase of the Bangsa Moro struggle and in bringing the revolution to its victorious end."

The communique called all the inhabitants of the Bangsa Moro homeland to solidify their ranks, and unite behind the "correct MNLF leadership" and urged them to expose and isolate the "hypocrites, the colonial spies, the agent provocateurs and all unrepentant stooges" so as "to stop them from obstructing the path of the revolution."

According to Misuari, the MNLF started the struggle for national independence of the Bangsa Moro people on March 18, 1968, when 68 young Army trainees from Sulu were massacred in Corregidor Island for refusing to carry out infiltration and espionage activities in Sabah, Malaysia. The MNLF celebrates the day as "Bangsa Moro Freedom Day".

MALAYA sources said that last March 18, there was an "independence" day celebration in Jolo and in some "liberated" areas, highlighted with military parades and the raising of the flag of the "Bangsa Moro Republik."

Significantly there was no mention in the communique either of the Tripoli Agreement or the reported leadership factionalism that have plagued the MNLF leadership.

According to news reports, Hashim Salamat, erstwhile foreign affairs officer under Misuari, has formed his own rebel faction after his ill-fated attempt to capture the MNLF leadership.

Dimas Pundato, a ranking MNLF commander from Lanao del Sur, has been reported to be heading his own faction called "Reformist Group".

While Salamat and Pundato are contented with fighting for the so-called "regional autonomy" in some regions in Mindanao, Misuari has declared that only the complete liquidation of all vestiges of "Philippine colonialism" and the national independence of the Bangsa Moro people can solve the age-old Mindanao conflict.

CSO: 4200/57

PHILIPPINES

MNLF DISUNITY HAMPERS ACTIVITIES; SALAMAT STRONGEST

HK080845 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 7 Oct 85 p 16

[By Miguel Rocha]

[Text] The threat by the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) to re-escalate hostilities in the Central Mindanao region "remains an empty threat just as it is," according to Brigadier General Cesar Tapia, Regional Unified Command (RUC) 12 commander.

There were reports though, Tapia said, that the MNLF under the Hashim Salamat faction was undergoing training activities at an undisclosed jungle training base in the region.

In a report to acting Armed Forces Chief Lt Gen Fidel V. Ramos, Tapia said the MNLF under Salamat "appeared to have remained the stronger and better organized faction of the three MNLF revolutionary groups in Central Mindanao."

The MNLF, the only revolutionary group which reached the stage of insurrection during the early 1970's, has been neutralized by the government following the surrender of many of its field commanders over a wide area in Mindanao.

The MNLF hierarchy further plunged into a leadership problem resulting from the split of the organization into three factions--that of Nur Misuari, erstwhile MNLF chairman; Hashim Salamat, now called his faction the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF); and Dimas Pundato, who heads the so-called MNLF "reformist group."

In Central Mindanao, the Salamat faction has been known to be the stronger of the three groups, undertaking but ill-equipped in terms of arms and ammunition.

General Tapia said his intelligence network has not monitored any entry of firearms and ammunitions from abroad. There was also no report on tactical plans.

On the other hand, Tapia said, the MNLF under Nur Misuari "appeared to be continuously beset with serious leadership problems."

It was reported recently that two of Misuari's trusted commanders in the area, known only as Commanders "Sema" and "Karon," have fallen out of grace for malversation of revolutionary funds.

This prompted Misuari to name a new chairman of the North Cotabato revolutionary committee, identified as Mike Salilagua, fresh from training in a Middle East country, according to Tapia.

With regard to the Pundato group, nothing significant has been monitored of his "reformist group" in the home front, except for occasional news on the activities of this group abroad, the latest of which was his visit to Washington.

In general, Tapia said, the MNLF has remained considerably silent for quite sometime now. "Not much significant activities have been observed so far and there were no immediate tactical plans monitored," he said.

"For the meantime," Tapia said, "it appears that the threats for the re-escalation of hostilities if the government fails to resume negotiations would only remain an empty threat just as it is."

On the MNLF activities abroad, particularly in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, it was noted that the split in the MNLF hierarchy has followed a "tribal regrouping" among Filipino Muslim workers there.

Lawyer Abdul M. Dataya, regional director of the Finance Ministry Intelligence Bureau (FMIB) for Region II, said those workers from Sulu, Basilan, Tawi-Tawi and Zamboanga are favoring Misuari, he being a Tausog.

Monitoring reports of Filipino activities in Saudi Arabia during the recent annual pilgrimage to Mecca, Dataya said the workers from Cotabato, on the other hand, are for Hashim Salamat, he being a Maguindanaon.

Pundato's following are those from the Lanao provinces.

"This tribal split is being carried down the line up to their followers in the Philippines, thus their strength has considerably ebbed," Dataya said.

"This could be the reason why for the past several years, they have not been active," Dataya added.

CSO: 4200/57

PHILIPPINES

DEREGULATION OF INDUSTRY PRODUCES MIXED RESULTS

HK080921 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 7 Oct 85 p 17

[By Carol Espiritu]

[Text] The government's withdrawal from virtually all private enterprises brought about mixed feelings--anxiety for many consumers fearing traders' manipulation and relief for many businessmen who had long felt threatened by subsidized government operations.

As the country enters a new era of total private control over businesses, the first sprint of eagerness shown by the private sector resulted in stiff competition, sometimes disastrously for them.

When the government extended the authority for fertilizer imports last year beyond the four-company cartel which used to enjoy the privilege, 19 fertilizer firms are now beating the daylights out of each other to gain foothold of new markets.

The outcome: fertilizer prices lower by as much as 30 percent below the guiding rates.

As for rice, where price control was lifted October 1, private traders, faced with a dilemma of accumulating stocks in the face of abundant harvests, are forced to sell at levels below the pre-deregulation period.

For both commodities, ample supply and stiff competition among traders were the ingredients in assuring low prices.

Liberalized imports for feed grains for the country's livestock industry, however, seem to be a harder nut to crack. While it assures cheap feedgrains for big business because of the lower world market prices, farmers are complaining that the availability of cheaper grains depresses demand for their produce, thus pulling down local prices.

When the National Food Authority (NFA) used to be the sole importer of feedgrains, it resold these commodities at protective prices, to approximate local farmgate prices. With the private sector importing, however, corn supplies available even during the lean months face the prospect of underpricing.

Sufficiency, particularly for feedcorn, appears to be the only solution that would wed the discrepancy between the lower world market prices and profitability for farmers to ensure availability of supply.

Unless big business remains the main buyers of local farmer's produce, advancement of producers would be difficult to assure because there would always be cheaper alternatives in the world market to dampen local producers' initiatives.

Bakers, provided funding support by private entrepreneurs, have deprived the country's eight millers of a substantial percentage of their business in the main flour-using industry of the country.

Propped up to meet their own needs, the wheat millers are now importing wheat supply enough to meet requirements only of the remaining wheat product consumers in industries and the feedmilling sector, believed to be less than 50 percent of their usual clientele.

It would be too early to determine if the outcome would bring cheaper bread products on the consumers' table--but sure beneficiaries are the thousands of bakers in the country who may now directly import either wheat or flour on a landed cost basis.

But fears of a new monopoly on flour are being raised--a situation which could pose problems for consumers, as well as negate the existence of the free play of market forces.

Although the government is withdrawing from intervention in the private sector affairs, it may do well to enact laws and adopt policies that would ensure a wholesome business atmosphere of free enterprise.

Future developments in the coming months or years resulting from deregulation of private businesses are anybody's guess.

But always, the government need not be constrained to clamp back the shackles, should public welfare demand it.

CSO: 4200/57

PHILIPPINES

DEFENSE MINISTER REJECTS IDEA OF NEUTRALITY

HK080901 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 7 Oct 85 p 18

[Text] Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile has brushed aside the idea of neutral Philippines under the guarantee of the superpowers as proposed by certain politicians.

"Even if such guarantee of neutrality exists, there is nothing we can do to stop a superpower race to occupy the Philippines, which is likely to happen in the event of a global conflict," Enrile said.

Enrile made the statement when asked to comment on a proposal by "certain quarters" to make the Philippines a neutral country under the guarantee of the superpowers during an open forum which followed a regional peace and order council meeting in Cebu City last Friday.

The Philippines, he said, will be occupied by a superpower anyway in case a global conflict occurs "because of the strategic location of our country."

"The people would be hard put to defend themselves under such a situation," Enrile added.

In this regard, he said, "it is better that we maintain a superpower presence here to achieve a balance of power in the region rather than seek neutrality."

In the same venue, Enrile also said there is no need to reimpose martial law in the country.

"I would not recommend the imposition of martial law now or in the near future because the national security does not warrant it," Enrile said in reply to a question.

"We are relatively better off today in terms of security than in 1972 when martial law was declared," he said.

Enrile cited the fact that in 1972, the 53,000-strong Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) was pitted against a well-armed contingent of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) numbering between 20,000 and 30,000 men who enjoyed external support.

At the same time, Enrile said, the country was faced with a 2,500 New People's Army (NPA) regulars and about 300 private armies.

"At that time, our soldiers lacked the necessary arms and equipment and we had to go to Clark Air Base to literally beg for a measly 2,500 m-16 Armalities to match the capability of our adversaries," he said.

In a statement released yesterday by the Ministry of National Defense (MND), Enrile said "our police forces then were also fragmented and under the control of local executives such that they could not be effectively harnessed on a national scale against insurgency and rebellion."

However, the AFP now has more soldiers who are well-equipped and highly trained and the only serious threat they are facing is a 9,000-strong NPA spread among guerrilla fronts in the countryside.

"We can handle the situation without the imposition of martial law," Enrile said.

CSO: 4200/57

PHILIPPINES

PROFESSOR ON U.S. BASES, CHANCES OF NUCLEAR ATTACK

HK071103 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 5 Oct 85 pp 1, 4

[By Aristides Africa]

[Text] A University of the Philippines [UP] professor on Philippine studies yesterday said withdrawal of American bases will reduce the chances of a nuclear attack on the country but at the same time increase the probability of external aggression through conventional war.

Dr Serafin D. Talisayon saw more than a million people dying in a nuclear attack on the three U.S. bases in the country, the Subic Naval base, and the San Miguel Communication Station in San Marcelino, both in Zambales, and Clark Air Base in Pampanga.

Talisayon said that although these American military facilities in the country are not considered part of the active triad of U.S. strategic defense, the Russians perceive them as integral to the U.S. second-strike capability.

Second-strike capability, as explained by Talisayon, is the capacity of one nation to retaliate at an aggressor who might launch the first nuclear warhead.

The U.S. active defense triad are the intercontinental ballistic missiles launched from underground silos, the submarine-launched ballistic missiles and the Strategic Air Command bombers.

"The tactical value of Subic and Clark facilities to the U.S. global military readiness lies partly in their support of the Seventh Fleet and partly in their support of projecting power or directly supporting actual combat in any Middle East or Persian Gulf theater," Talisayon said.

On the U.S. bases here, Talisayon said the ideal setup would be for the United States to commit itself not to abrogate its mutual defense pact with the Philippines in spite of the base pullout.

Under the pact, the United States may send its troops to the Philippines in case of an armed attack on the country by a foreign force.

Talisayon said it is common knowledge that the Soviets are helping Vietnam in a military buildup.

While Vietnam has the biggest army in the Far East, it has no naval or air force and this could be the major deterrent to its possibly making a move against the Philippines.

Another factor cited by Talisayon is the presence of the military facilities in the Philippines.

The powderkeg situation among the two Chinas, Vietnam and the Philippines, who all are staking a claim on the Kalayaan Island west of Palawan, could blow up any time, he said.

On nuclear war, Talisayon said if an aggressor drops a one megaton ton bomb on each of the three bases, it will mean not only the immediate death of more than a million people.

It will also mean destruction of buildings and physical facilities.

One megaton is equivalent to one million tons of explosives.

The atomic bombs dropped at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, in the closing months of World War II triggered an explosion equal to 12,000 tons each and killed an estimated 710,000 people in the two cities.

Should a bomb be detonated 300 meters (for maximum effectivity) above Subic or Clark, "the radius of maximum fatalities will be, eight kilometers for a single one-megaton blast," Talisayon said.

From Subic, the "circle of risk will extend to Olongapo City, Castillejos and San Marcelino," Talisayon said.

From Clark Air Force Base the damage will be greater in Angeles City, Magalang, Mabalacat, Bamban (TARLAC) and Porac, he said.

Indirect or fallout effects would induce leukemia, gastro-intestinal collapse, and genetic defects, among others he said.

Talisayon spoke on "Likelihood of a Nuclear Attack on U.S. Military Facilities in the Philippines and the Potential Magnitude of the Consequences" at a public discussion sponsored by the UP Asian Center and the International Studies of the Philippines Law Complex at the Asian Center.

CSO: 4200/57

PHILIPPINES

NPA ATTACKS COPPER MINE, SEIZES EXPLOSIVES

HK251556 Hong Kong AFP in English 1523 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Text] Bacolod, Philippines, 25 Sep (AFP)--Communist guerrillas attacked a government-owned copper mine near this central city and seized a huge cache of explosives, firearms and ammunition, the military said here today.

The New People's Army (NPA) rebels carted away two tonnes of explosives, 1,000 rounds of assorted ammunition and an unspecified number of rifles in Friday's raid near Sipalay Town, Negros Island Commander Colonel Isagani de Los Santos said.

Colonel de los Santos told reporters some 200 guerrillas also made off with assorted material "used in blowing up mountainsides," including detonating cords, blasting caps, emulites, and dynamite safety fuses.

The target of the raid was the Maricalum Mining Corporation complex, a newly reopened copper mine some 110 kilometers (66 miles) south of the Negros Island capital.

Colonel de los Santos said the rebels, clad in Army ranger uniforms, apparently went directly to the mine superintendent who immediately gave in to their demands. The military learned of the raid only 4 hours later.

The NPA is the estimated 12,000-strong guerrilla force of the banned Communist Party of the Philippines, which is waging a 16-year-old campaign across the country.

In a previous raid on the mine, while it was still operated by the Marinduque Mining and Industrial Corporation, NPA guerrillas made off with 21 shotguns from the private security force, office equipment and radios.

The mine experienced financial difficulties shortly thereafter, and was foreclosed by the government. It was reopened in July with financing from the Marubeni Corp of Japan.

Mine workers who requested anonymity told reporters they were rounded up and given a communist "teach-in" during the raid.

The raid was the third major NPA operation in the island this year. In March NPA guerrillas raided a naval school armory here and carted away over 400 rifles, and they attacked nearby Isabela Town last May, killing 17 people, mostly soldiers.

Meanwhile, eight NPA rebels were killed in separate clashes with government patrols in the southern provinces of Agusan del Norte and Agusan del Sur yesterday, the regional military headquarters in Cagayan de Oro City said today.

A military spokesman said a government patrol composed of soldiers and policemen engaged a 50-man NPA band in a 30-minute shootout at a village near Trento Town, in Agusan del Sur, killing five rebels.

Three other rebels were slain in a clash with troops near Jabonga Town, Agusan del Norte, the spokesman added.

CSO: 4200/13

PHILIPPINES

MARCOS URGES BUSINESSMEN TO INVEST IN ECONOMY

HK271037 Hong Kong AFP in English 0951 GMT 27 Sep 85

[Text] Manila, 25 Sep (AFP)--President Ferdinand Marcos has urged local and foreign businessmen to set aside their fears and start investing more in the Philippine economy, saying conditions had never been better for them.

"The situation has never been more favorable than now," Mr Marcos told the Manila Rotary Club yesterday, which includes some of this debt-ridden country's most prominent local and foreign businessmen.

"Inflation is down, interest rates are low, credit is looser and available, and the nation has all the dollars it needs for external financing."

He said that the economy was "caught in the vice of low investment," but government spending was limited by ceilings set in a recovery program approved by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

"The critical move now is for those of you in the private sector to take," Mr Marcos told the Rotary Club.

He said annual inflation was now down to 15.8 percent, local interest rates ranged from 16 to 18 percent, and fresh foreign loans were available.

Inflation hit an all-time high of 63 percent in October 1984 while commercial interest rates ranged from 40 to 50 percent at their peak.

Admitting that businessmen had taken "quite a beating" in the last 2 years and were "timorous and overly cautious for fear of being rudely shocked again," he stressed that "those who come in early will reap the most, and those who come in late can only have the crumbs."

The economy nosedived as Manila declared a technical default on part of its foreign debt in October 1983, 2 months after the murder of top opposition leader Benigno Aquino had undermined an already shaky economy.

Business firms collapsed and some 93,000 workers lost their jobs in 1984, according to official figures, as the country felt the brunt of its worst economic crisis since World War II.

Mr Marcos yesterday placed the country's current foreign debt at 25.2 billion dollars, down from 25.4 billion dollars at the end of 1984, after the influx of new foreign loans.

Manila secured a 610 million dollar standby loan from the IMF in December, after which over 480 bank creditors agreed to restructure 5.8 billion dollars in debts due from October 1983 to December 1986, and release 925 million dollars in new money and 3 billion dollars in trade credits.

Mr Marcos said the country's balance of payments surplus in the first half of 1985 totalled 2.517 billion dollars after adjustments compared to a negative figure of 164 million dollars in the same period last year.

Gross international reserves totalled 1.749 billion dollars on 30 August, he said, compared to 886 million at the end of 1984.

CSO: 4200/13

PHILIPPINES

GUERRILLAS ATTACK JOINT VENTURE WITH JAPAN

OW270755 Tokyo KYODO in English 0752 GMT 27 Sep 85

[Text] Manila, 27 Sep (KYODO)--A Filipino-Japanese joint venture activated carbon plant in Davao in Mindanao, southern Philippines, was raided by 10 armed men believed to be communist-led New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas Thursday night, a company official said.

A security guard of the company, Philippine-Japan Activated Carbon, was wounded in the attack but two other guards and three company staff on duty were not harmed. There were no Japanese officials or personnel at the plant during the attack.

Company personnel manager Wilfredo Tujan, who called the raid an "accident," told KYODO News Service that the raiders scaled the walls of the plant located along Davao's major highway in Panacan Village, about 16 kilometers north of the city proper. The raiders seized five assorted firearms and ammunition from the guards but did not damage the plant.

The attack was the first against a Japanese firm in Davao where NPA urban guerrillas are active.

The plant's general manager, Tokuichi Satohuka, said that Kowa Co. Ltd., a Japanese pharmaceutical company, and another Japanese firm which he would not identify own 95 percent of the plant, which exports activated carbon out of coconut to Japan, United States and Europe.

A Japanese-owned silk plantation was burned last May by NPA guerrillas in Misamis Oriental Province, also in Mindanao, the first rebel attack against a Japanese firm in southern Philippines in the 16-year old insurgency.

Last week, the Maricalum Mining Corp. in Negros Occidental Province in central Philippines was raided by more than 100 NPA guerrillas disguised as government soldiers and carted away thousands of explosives without firing a single shot. Marubeni Corp, a major Japanese trading house, owns equity in the mining firm.

CSO: 4200/13

PHILIPPINES

ROMUALDEZ STARTS NEW BUSINESS PUBLICATION

HK271229 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 18 Sep 85 p 7

[Text] A publishing firm controlled by the first lady's brother, Ambassador Benjamin Romualdez, has come out with a business-financial daily geared to compete head-on with the independent business paper BUSINESS DAY.

The maiden issue of MAKATI BUSINESS DAILY, a 12-page broadsheet, came out yesterday. The new paper is priced at p[peso]2, half the price of BUSINESS DAY.

Publisher of the new daily is Chinatown Publishing Corp. which also puts out the Binondo-based CHINATOWN NEWS. The new business paper, however, holds office and uses the printing facilities of the Romualdez-controlled Times Journal group of publications.

"We'll give BUSINESS DAY a run for its money, considering that we will be running business features a full 24 hours ahead of our competition," the official Philippine News Agency quoted one of the paper's editors as saying.

He was referring to the paper's commodities and financial market reports from abroad, which come via REUTERS, a London-based news service. BUSINESS DAY normally carries the same reports a day after foreign market closings, PNA said.

Five years ago the Times Journal group put out a similar paper aimed at the business community. The paper, FINANCIAL TIMES OF MANILA hit the streets in February 1981 only to fold up a year later.

BUSINESS DAY, an 18-year-old paper, expanded its coverage after the Aquino assassination in 1983 to include politics and has earned a reputation as an independent paper since.

PNA reports: Running a full section of the paper at the back page is Binondo business section which is intended to exploit the paper's Chinatown connection.

"Our market thus includes Filipino-Chinese businessmen, who traditionally have their ears close to the Binondo business ground," said another editor.

A feature expected to be a come-on for Filipino-Chinese businessmen is the Grapevine--a column on the latest business gossips and tips in Chinatown.

MAKATI BUSINESS DAILY's conservative layout news is patterned after that of the ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL, published out of Hong Kong but which carries very little of metro Manila's business stories.

CSO: 4200/13

PHILIPPINES

CONFUSION OVER SUSPECTS IN SABAH ROBBERY

REUTERS Report Denied

HK081116 Hong Kong AFP in English 1045 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Text] Manila, Oct 8 (AFP)--The Philippine Armed Forces today denied a foreign news agency report that a paramilitary trooper shot dead by marines in the southern Philippines was among suspected pirates who attacked a Malaysian town last month.

The denial was made here as two Filipino lawmakers separately urged an immediate parliamentary inquiry into a reportedly bloody retaliatory raid on the Philippine isle of Maranas, also called Maddanas, that allegedly involved Malaysian forces.

In a statement released here, southern Philippines military Chief Major General Delfin Castro said the constable, Jumdail Toraji, was gunned down yesterday while trying to escape soldiers who arrested him for keeping unlicensed guns in his house.

The general said he was reacting to a report by REUTERS which said the constable was among those who raided Lahad Datu in northern Sabah State last September 23, killing at least 10 persons.

He also confirmed that three Filipino civilians suspected of taking part in the raid were now under military custody and undergoing interrogation.

The National Assembly secretariat said M.P. Jose Zubiri of the ruling New Society Movement (KBL) and opposition M.P. Homobono Adaza filed proposed resolutions on the probe yesterday, when the legislature reopened after a two-week recess.

A Philippine marine general had charged that Malaysian troops aboard gunboats and helicopters killed or kidnapped 53 Filipinos on the remote southern isle after the Lahad Datu raid.

Kuala Lumpur denied the charge. Manila did not back the accusation, saying only that it was conducting a probe and warning that unnamed forces were out to create conflict between the two neighbors.

PHILIPPINES

ASBESTOS EXPOSURE PROMPTS SUITS AGAINST U.S. BASE AUTHORITIES

Civilian Employees Hire Lawyer

HK080833 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 7 Oct 85 pp 1, 4

[Editorial Report] Olongapo City--At least 1,000 Filipino employees at the U.S. naval base in Subic are suffering from asbestosis and related illnesses and a lawyer will file damage suits in U.S. federal courts on their behalf.

Montly G. Manibog, who heads a law firm in Los Angeles, conferred yesterday with Roberto A. Flores, president of the 22,000-member Federation of Filipino Civilian Employees Associations in U.S. facilities in the Philippines.

Flores later told a press conference that asbestosis cases involving both active-duty and retired base personnel could run up to a thousand. He said cases were being brought to his attention daily and that "right now, we have already documented at least a hundred or so cases."

The meeting between Flores, who had been shopping around for an American lawyer to represent the Filipino workers in the base and Manibog who had read of the cases in the U.S., was arranged by mutual friends.

There was also an "asbestos furor" in Metro Manila in 1982. This resulted in the issuance in 1983 of a Letter of Instructions [LOI] ordering the removal of asbestos used in lining connecting ducts of air conditioning units and their replacement with non-carcinogenic materials.

President Marcos had also ordered establishments and enterprises to desist from using asbestos materials in their installation of air conditioning units because of the "positive danger" asbestos poses to the population. The LOI stated that "over the past several months, there has been increasing concern over indications from medical and scientific research that some relationship exists between cancer and sustained physical contact of the human body with asbestos.

"The evidence that has become available so far shows, for instance, that asbestos fiber inhaled and deposited in the lungs is definitely carcinogenic," the LOI said.

The secretariat said the resolutions on the proposed inquiry were referred to the Committee on National Security, Defense and Peace and Order headed by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile.

A Defense Ministry spokesman said he was not aware if the committee had taken any action on the resolutions.

Pirate Suspect Arrested

HK050352 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 4 Oct 85

[Text] A suspect in the \$60,000 bank robbery in Lahad Datu, Sabah, has been arrested in Zamboanga City. Military sources said the suspect, a certain (NASSER), was arrested in a zoning operation last Tuesday. South Command Chief Major General Delfin Castro declined to comment on the progress of the investigation of the alleged raid by Malaysian forces on the island of (Maddanas) in Tawi-Tawi and the piracy by Filipinos in Lahad Datu. General Castro said he has submitted a report to acting Armed Forces Chief Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos. He noted no significant changes in the earlier reports. However, General Castro said there may be a need for a Philippine-Malaysian border agreement to prevent piracy and other forms of criminality in the Philippine-Malaysian border. The Philippines has such an agreement with Indonesia.

Meanwhile President Marcos was praised yesterday [4 October] by the ASEAN ambassadors in Manila for his statesmanlike attitude on the alleged Malaysian raid in Tawi-Tawi. The envoys expressed their appreciation and congratulations to the president during a dinner in honor of departing Thai ambassador Prachit Rothchanaphruk. They conveyed their congratulations through acting Foreign Minister Pacifico Castro.

CSO: 4200/57

Assemblyman To Discuss Possible Suit

HK080651 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT
8 Oct 85

[Text] Zambales Assemblyman Antonio Diaz says he is leaving shortly for New York City to discuss with lawyers a possible suit against authorities at U.S. military facilities in the Philippines. A number of Filipino workers at the Subic Naval Base are said to be suffering from asbestosis. Assemblyman Diaz also said he has received new complaints about radiation emissions from Voice of America transmitters. Several cases are pending in American courts involving victims of asbestosis.

CSO: 4200/57

30 October 1985

PHILIPPINES

LABOR MINISTRY TALLIES 33 STRIKES IN SEPTEMBER

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 30 Sep 85 p 6

[Text]

The labor ministry said yesterday there are 33 on-going strikes nationwide, 26 involving Metro Manila-based firms, even as the Bureau of Labor Relations (BLR) said it has received 208 notices of strikes or lockouts as of September 27.

Vic Calaycay, chief of the conciliation division of the BLR, said most of the labor disputes involve cases of unfair labor practice, such as management's refusal to bargain with the union, discrimination, union busting, harassment of unionists and underpayment of the 13th month pay.

The BLR said Metro Manila has the most number of strikes with 26, followed by Central Luzon with two, and Southern Luzon, Cebu, Isabela, Cagayan de Oro and Cotabato, with one strike each.

Eight of the 26 on-going strikes in Manila are in Valenzuela, the BLR said.

Of the 208 pending strike notices, 153 involve firms in Metro Manila. Broken down into different regions, pending disputes include Northern

Luzon, 1; Central Luzon, 4; Southern Luzon, 8; Bicol, 2; Western Visayas, 1; Cebu, 26; Zamboanga, 3; Cagayan de Oro, 1; and Cotabato, 9.

The BLR said it is currently handling 51 of the strike notices while the labor ministry's National Capital Region office is handling 72 cases.

Meanwhile, the labor ministry said it has settled five labor disputes last week. These are the disputes at Rothman Inn Hotel, Domestic Insurance Corp. of the Phil., Delta Weaving Mills Inc., Kawsek Inc. and Mariwasa Manufacturing Corp. The disputes were handled by conciliators Francisco Jose, Rolando Obina and Wally Villamor.

CSO: 4200/75

PHILIPPINES

BULACAN NPA FUNERAL OPENLY AFFIRMS REVOLUTIONARY SLOGANS

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 30 Sep 85 p 9

[Article: "NPA Rebels Score a Breakthrough"]

[Text]

MEYCAUAYAN,
Bulacan - Sept. 21, 7
p.m. While the Marcos
government wrapped
up its National
Thanksgiving Day
celebration and the
Opposition groups
prepared their mass
base for a two-hour
noise barrage capping
the whole day of
"national mourning of
the 13th year anniversary of martial law",
some 1,000 people
gathered in a not-so-remote barrio in this
town for necrological
services for two slain
members of the New
People's Army.

It was the first
time a necrological
service in the most
revolutionary fashion
was held in the open,
with the mourners
miming no words up-
holding the principles
of the Communist
Party of the Philip-
pines and the people's
revolutionary move-
ment.

Meycauayan is
only about 45
minutes drive from
Manila.

Commemorated was
the death of Salvador
Serpio alias Ka
Badong, Jay Estrada
alias Ka Jay, and Ed-
gardo Arnaiz alias Ka
Bong and Ka Rino.
They were all mem-
bers of the NPA
armed city partisans.

Serpio and Estrada
were killed in a gun-
fight with the Mey-
cauayan police force
last Sept. 12 while
Arnaiz was killed in
Sapang Palay Sept.
10.

Friends, relatives
and comrades of the
slain revolutionaries
took turns in assailing
the "US-Marcos dicta-
torship for purveying
institutionalized vio-
lence that must be
met and answered by
a revolutionary peo-
ple's movement."

"The three lived
the lives for which all
other martyrs of the
people's cause lived
and died for," the
mourners said.

Serpio and Arnaiz
were buried in Meycau-
ayan Sept. 22 following a
1,000 strong funeral
march. Unlike urban
mass actions where slo-
gans dominantly called
for the dismantling of

the US-Marcos regime,
chants in this occasion
became an affirmation of
the mourners' resolve.

Marchers' shout of
"NPA, lumalakas, luma-
lawak, lumalaban" and
"Mabuhay ang PKP (Pur-
sido Komunista ng Pili-
pinas) at RH9 (Bagong
Hukbong Bayan)" and
the repeated singing of
the "Internationale"
grew louder as they
approached the municip-
al hall which was then
heavily guarded by police
and military forces carry-
ing high powered rifles.

The mourners staged
a protest action fronting
the municipal hall but
was cut short when
policemen started firing
their guns in the air.

Estrada's remains
were interred Sept. 28.

PHILIPPINES

FARMERS OPPOSE KKK COFFEE PROJECT

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 30 Sep 85 p 9

[Text]

SADANGA, Mt. Province - To show their opposition to what they perceived as the beginning of the usurpation of their tribal lands, some 650 farmers from the five barrios in this municipality held a rally last Sept. 10 to protest the continued implementation of the coffee loan project of the Kilusan ng Kabuhayan at Kaunlaran in the area and the failure of local officials to endorse the people's demands.

The rally was led by farmers of Sadanga poblacion, Beligan, Sacmanan and Sacli. Betwagan was not represented during the meeting. Notably absent was Miguel Ongan, president of the local KKK who was believed to be within town limits.

This was the third rally held in protest against the KKK program here after petitions resulting from two preceding people's rallies last May 12 and Aug. 20 apparently fell on deaf ears.

A resolution protest signed by 393 representatives addressed to the Ministry of Human Settlements demanded a stop to further fund releases for the program here and for the MHS to cancel immediately the project in the municipality. It was addressed to MHS regional director Godfrey Telan.

The protest letter scored the Stewardship Agreement issued by the Bureau of Forest Development as a prerequisite for application, and which grants applicants forest occupancy permits to cultivate and possess land, as a "technical document to dispossess us of our ancestral lands".

The petition said the project is a threat to the people's communal forests and mountains.

Picard-bearing participants took turns denouncing the divisive ef-

fects of the coffee loan project among the people.

They called for an end to the program, asked local members to withdraw their membership from the association, and urged the local leaders to endorse their protest to the MHS.

In response to the rally, some 104 farmers representing almost all the members signed a declaration withdrawing their membership from the Coffee Loan Association effective Sept. 10, 1985 and demanded that the copies of the agreements they signed be returned and burned because they "now realize the viciousness of the program."

Some farmers were incensed upon discovering that in spite of their not having signed anything, they were named members of the

association. They charged the association officials as having acted on bad faith and decried the alleged forgery which they felt tended to "undermine their persona." They expressed their solidarity with other sectors in calling for an end to the project. It was gathered that members of the association from Babwang renounced their membership much earlier.

The declaration said their withdrawal is "an endorsement of public clamor, if only to seek harmonious socio-economic and political understanding in the town." The farmers felt that the program was not explained fully to them earlier and that they realized it did not "jibe with the existing landholding system" upheld in the community.

Signatories were led by Sadanga Mayor Es-

tanislao Fagto, Vice Mayor Patrick Gangangan, Poblacion Barangay and concurrently ABC president Agapito Apopot, Sangguniang Bayan members John Foy-os, Alban Guinayan, Jose Lassin and Comasil Fayocan, barangay captains Modesto Agangang of Belwang, Gabino Eta-et of Bekigan, Ladawan Labotan of Sacasacan and Valentin Tubao of Saclit and Poblacion council members Fanacas Ganaden and Magrangan Sumilao.

—Last May 12, the farmers sent their petition against the project to the provincial, regional and national offices of the MHS. Their opposition to the project was again aired during a dialog with representatives of the MHS in Faleo-ayan, Sadanga last Aug. 20. Present during this dialog were representatives of other government agencies whom the group felt were invited primarily to lend support to the MHS program but nevertheless witnessed the heightened opposition of the people instead.

The KKK loan project was launched two years ago with the organization of the Coffee Loans Association. The MHS allotted P1 million to each town in the Mt. Province to finance solely the production of coffee.

Aside from the stewardship agreement, other loan terms are contained

in the Individual Beneficiary Commitment of Undertaking which specifies, among other things, that each member can avail of a P10,000 loan to be given in forms of coffee seedlings, farm implements, fertilizers and contributions for the overhead operational expense of the association. It also provides for a hectare of one's landholding and that repayment of loans should be for a period of 15 years to begin on the 8th year with an annual amortization. The agreement also stipulated that the applicant "accepts the rights of the association to take over the coffee production including the land and standing crops for its own disposition."—(CNA)

CSO: 4200/75

PHILIPPINES

LANAO DEL SUR RESOLUTION ON MITRA FOR PRESIDENT

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 30 Sep 85 p 9

[Text] MARAWI CITY, Lanao del Sur - Leaders of the Filipino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan (PDP-Laban) of Lanao del Sur recently signed a resolution supporting Member of Parliament Ramon V. Mitra Jr. (Opposition-Palawan) for president in the 1987 presidential election or in case of a snap poll. Bonnie G. Balt, provincial chairman of the Lanao del Sur Council and national president of the Muslim Youth Movement of the Philippines (MYMP), and Datu Asit C. Guro, acting chairman of the Marawi City Council, joined 28 other municipal council chairmen in expressing an unconditional support for MP Mitra. They said they endorsed Mitra's candidacy

in answering the need to put up "a strong and acceptable Opposition presidential candidate who can surely end the 20-year-old Marcos regime."

According to the Muslim leaders, among them Patadatu Bayan, Ayunan Datu Balt, Adab Gampong, Solaiman Mangondaya, Bert Saransam and Datu Macanadas Hadji Rasul, MP Mitra emerged in a research and poll survey conducted in the city and municipal councils as the most likely Opposition leader who can beat President Ferdinand Marcos.

PHILIPPINES

TWO DAVAO COLONELS COMPARED, ANTI-INSURGENCY RESULTS VIEWED

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 25 Sep 85 p 20

[Article by Gregg Jones, in Davao: "Battle for Hearts and Minds in Philippines"]

[Text]

At the end of 1984, Colonel Rodolfo Blason made a list of 34 hamlets heavily controlled by Leftist guerrillas. Each was ruled by a New People's Army "shadow government," supported a "revolutionary militia," and paid N.P.A. taxes.

Colonel Blason moved 1500 marines into the hamlets and began patrolling the surrounding area. He also sat down with the rebel-sympathising villagers and tried to coax them to talk about their grievances rather than support the guerrillas.

"It took four to six months to change their attitude, but there is a change in the areas we moved into," Colonel Blason said in a recent interview.

Authorities concede that President Ferdinand Marcos's Government has been losing ground to the New People's Army over the last two years, but front-line commanders say that an intensive counter-insurgency campaign in and around Davao — the country's third largest city — is reversing the trend.

Some villagers and observers, however, say the guerrillas are merely lying low and the Government is stepping up its propaganda campaign to create the illusion of winning.

"There may be fewer people getting killed here, but I would hardly say that the military is winning the people's hearts and minds," said a foreign Catholic priest.

Once the country's fastest growing city on the southern island of

Mindanao, Davao is becoming better known as Front 5 on guerrilla maps. The Armed Forces chief, Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos, describes the city as "the N.P.A.'s laboratory" because of the guerrillas' introduction of urban warfare and taxation programmes.

Officials report that about 800 people died in and around the city in guerrilla-related incidents in 1984. Already this year, nearly 600 people have been killed in Davao in attacks by the military or guerrillas, according to local media reports.

The Government's attempts to turn the tide in Davao rest on two veterans of the Vietnam War and Philippine guerrilla campaigns: Colonel Blason, aged 51, who concentrates on Davao's ragged rural areas, and Colonel Landemer Kahalugan, aged 51, who commands Davao's paramilitary police force.

"No N.P.A. would dare be seen in this city because I will get him," says Colonel Kahalugan. His enemies, whom he dismisses as "chaos-loving communists," have dubbed him General Kagulugan — General "Troublemaker."

He measures his achievements in Davao in an endless stream of statistics: body counts, number of guerrillas or criminals killed and arrested, even the number of soldiers he has jailed for abuses. His scorecard lists 187 "subversive terrorists" arrested in 1983, 167 of whom remain in jail. He further claims to have killed or captured 30 of 40 N.P.A. assassination

squads operating in the city. "Kahalugan's way of clearing up the city is to 'eliminate' people suspected of crimes or subversive activities," one political militant said wryly.

On the other hand, even ardent Leftists pledged to overthrowing President Marcos offer Colonel Blason praise. "He has been willing to listen to the people" said one Leftist.

Colonel Blason also strikes a responsive chord with Filipinos by stressing that he is pro-democracy, and not pro-Marcos. Indeed, he says that people justifiably harbour a "desperate desire for change in our country."

While most agree that Colonel Blason's use of well-disciplined troops and dialogue have improved the image of the military in his region, the claim of "turning around" N.P.A. gains is debatable.

According to Colonel Blason, while 30 per cent of Davao's districts were controlled by the guerrillas at the end of 1984, rebels control only 8 per cent today. He insists that the N.P.A.'s forced taxation and public executions of those who refuse have alienated villagers.

A Leftist countered: "The military controls certain villages for now, but when they pull out we come right back in."

In the meantime, Colonel Blason seems to offer frightened villagers the hope that bloodshed does not have to be the ultimate solution to the insurgency crisis. — Copyright, London Observer Service.

PHILIPPINES

STATEHOOD PARTY HEAD DENOUNCES CCP RECOGNITION

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 25 Sep 85 p 8

[Article: "Communist Party Hit; Legalization Proposal Nixed"]

[Text]

The Filipino Statehooders USA Movement headed by Pete S. Barrientos opposed yesterday the stand of the Philippine Statehood USA Movement (PSUM) endorsing the legalization of the Communist Party of the Philippines and its registrations as a political party with the Commission on Elections.

Barrientos said that Ted Sanial Jr., who was quoted to be espousing the legalization, was allegedly a self-appointed director general of the PSUM, and had no authority

from the late Assemblyman Bartolome Cabangbang, to make the stand for the group.

Sanial's stand is baseless and contrary to the statehood movement which is not an ideology but a mere concept proposing that the Philippines be annexed as the 51st state of the United States "to pursue happiness, justice, liberty, equality, freedom, prosperity, peace and political and economic stability," Barrientos said.

On the other hand, a communist advocates or supports a system of

ownership and production by community in which all members of the community share in the work and products, he said.

In the Philippines, the Communist Party has been outlawed because it aims to topple the government by force and refused to join a parliamentary struggle through peaceful means, he added.

"Since the Filipinos are peace loving and adhere to the principles of democracy and freedom, communism has no place in this part of the globe," Barrientos said.

CSO: 4200/75

PHILIPPINES

NPA RAIDERS SEIZE MINE EXPLOSIVES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 26 Sep 85 pp 1, 12

[Text] Dissidents seized a big cache of explosives during a raid at a mining complex in Negros Occidental on Sept. 20, the same day demonstrations and other mass actions were conducted by several groups in the province.

The raid, conducted by some 150 heavily armed New People's Army (NPA) elements, was seen by military authorities in Camp Aguinaldo as a new strategy of the local communist movement to take advantage of demonstrations which served to divert military attention from NPA raids and other armed activities.

The raiders, clad in fatigues uniforms, entered the Maricalum Mining Corp. (formerly known as the Marinduque Mining Corp.) complex in barangay San

Jose, Sipalay, Negros Occidental, without any manifestation of hasty activity. The company guards reportedly mistook them for soldiers.

The NPA group was reportedly led by a certain commander "Karem" and a certain "Dodi," according to reports reaching Camp Aguinaldo.

Carted away by the rebels were 60,000 detonating cords, 94 blasting caps, 930 meters of safety fuse, an undetermined number of explosives, 1,665 kilos of emulite explosives, 1,170 bullets for .22 caliber magnum, two units of two-way radio, 12 shot guns, various office equipment, and an undetermined number of engine spare parts.

The dissidents used an acetylene torch to open

the explosives storage of the mining camp and commandeered two dump trucks which they used to carry the explosives out of the complex, according to a report of Brig. Gen. Isidoro de Guzman, regional unified command (RUC) 6 commander.

The NPA band disarmed the guards, hostages the workers for three hours, and reportedly lectured on them on communism. (FNA)

Brig. Gen. Eduardo Ermita, Armed Forces Civilian Relations Director (AFP CRS) chief, said yesterday that there could be "a correlation between the timing of NPA raids and the conduct of mass actions by certain groups although this does not necessarily mean that the dissidents are working hand in hand with those engaged in such mass actions."

Ermita said, "It is highly probable that the dissidents are closely monitoring demonstrations and other

mass actions, which they know will tie down soldiers to a static role in the urban centers."

"When they know the troops were tied down because of mass actions, then the NPAs strike somewhere else," Ermita added.

The CRS chief also cited as proof the recent NPA raid on the Sariaya police station in Quezon province which was executed at about the same time when an estimated 2,000 demonstrators were marching to Camp Nakar from Lucena City. At that time elements of the Quezon constabulary command and other military personnel in the province were dispersing the demonstrators.

SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga — Twelve civilians were killed and five others were wounded during raids on military camps and other structures perpetrated by rebels of the New People's Army (NPA) in Central Luzon since August.

Brig. Gen. Jose P. Magno Jr., commander of the Central Luzon regional unified command (RUC), said yesterday he has created a special committee composed of military and civil authorities to provide all possible assistance to the victims of NPA atrocities.

Records in Camp Olivas showed that seven soldiers, five policemen, and three members of the civilian home defense force (CHDF) were killed since August in NPA raids. The civilians were hit by stray bullets.

Magno said the committee will look for ways and means of extending financial assistance to relatives of civilians who were either killed or wounded by NPA rebels.

PAGADIAN CITY — At least seven members of two farm families were massacred late last week by unidentified armed men believed to be members of the New People's Army (NPA) in Labuyan and Dumalinog towns, Zamboanga Del Sur, it was learned here yesterday.

In a separate incident, a barangay captain and his bodyguard, a member of the civilian home defense force (CHDF), were liquidated by suspected rebels in the outskirts Dumaling town.

Col. Adam Jimenez, PC-INP provincial commander, identified the victims in the Labuyan massacre as Ibrahim Laya, 37, Nestor Angeles, 23, and Julie Lumingha, 28, all of barangay Dingloy.

Massacred in Dumalinog town were Juanito Antipolo, 56, his son Daniel, 27, and Fernando, 23, and daughter Anna, 23, who is wife of an Army soldier. (TRR)

PHILIPPINES

SUGAR PLANTERS HIT TRADE MINISTER'S PLAN

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 27 Sep 85 p 12

[Text]

BACOLOD CITY,
Sept. 26 — Sugarcane planters and millers voiced strong objections today to a plan of Minister of Trade and Industry Roberto V. Ongpin listing non-sugar producers as incorporators of the proposed Philippine Sugar Marketing Corp. (Philsucom).

Calling it a violation of the "spirit and intent" of Presidential Decree No. 1971, the sugar producers termed the Ongpin draft-proposal as "anomalous, if not possibly illegal."

Former Rep. Armando C. Gustilo, speaking as president of the National Federation of Sugarcane Planters, said the board of commissioners of the Philippine Sugar Commission (Philsucom) deferred approval of the Ongpin project until sugar producers are given a chance to study the proposed articles of incorporation and by-laws of the P1-billion Philsuma, a new entity slated to take over

the trading functions of the National Sugar Trading Corp. (Nasutra) before end of October.

Gustilo and Roberto J. Montalvan, both Philsucom directors, said "it was fortunate" the Philsucom board deferred final action on Ongpin's proposal to name non-sugar producers, headed by himself, as initial incorporators and officers of the proposed Philsuma.

Listed as incorporators are Ongpin, Lilia R. Bautista of the Board of Investments, Teodoro M. Piono of Globe Mackay Radio Corp., Florentino Vicente of National Development Co. and Eduardo F. Gamboa of Philsucom. Only Gamboa is a sugar producer among the incorporators.

According to the sugar producers, P.D. No. 1971 clearly provided in Sec. 6 that Philsuma "will be owned 100 percent by sugar producers (planters and millers) in proportion to their actual production."

PHILIPPINES

MILITARY BLAMED IN FOREST DESTRUCTION

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 30 Sep 85 pp 1, 19

[Article by Sid Roman: "Military Hit on Forest Plight"]

[Text]

Military and Bureau of Forest Development (BFD) personnel have been tagged as perpetrators in the destruction of the country's forests which has reached alarming proportions, according to the National Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee (Nalec).

The Nalec, chaired by Lt. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, acting AFP chief of staff, met recently in Camp Crame to assess its past activities, particularly its mission to protect forest products.

The committee concluded that, despite the existence of several laws and regulations, efforts by the protection and law enforcement personnel of the government, including about 4,000 forest guards, the rate of forest destruction in the country has increased to alarming proportions "considered the fastest rate of forest destruction by any standards in the world."

Some military and BFD personnel have been identified by the Nalec as personally engaged in illegal logging or timber smuggling, in escorting illegally cut logs or fitches, in forcibly taking possession of illegally cut logs and fitches through the use of guns, and in extending protection to illegal loggers and timber smugglers by acting as their guards in the logging areas or providing firearms to them.

Some military personnel have been also found interceding for the release of illegally cut logs and fitches through threats and intimidation, Nalec said.

Findings and investigations of the Nalec during its recent meeting identified PC Sgt. Valentin Noble, detachment commander of a PC checkpoint in Tibaog in Davao City, as responsible in the illegal

cutting and transporting of Almaciga logs at a concession area in Davao City.

Noble has been transferred from the PC regional command 11 to Region 9.

Sgt. Eleuterio Baua and Sgt. J. delos Santos of the 116th PC company in Jasaan, Isabela, were also found escorting illegally cut narra logs which were seized by BFD personnel last Aug. 14.

Two days later, on Aug. 16, the two PC sergeants forcibly repossessed the logs. They were transferred to another PC regional command.

The Nalec also blamed politicians, timber license holders, members of the New People's Army (NPA), charcoal makers, hawkingmen and armaments in the destruction of the country's forests.

PHILIPPINES

GENERAL ECHEVERRIA CONDEMNS NPA KILLINGS IN MISAMIS

Davao MINDANAO TIMES in English 7-14 Sep 85 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Condemn Massacre of Volunteers"]

[Text]

DAVAO CITY - The current spate of NPA-initiated mass killings is no longer just to secure propaganda mileage but a desperate bid of the communist movement to reverse their growing isolation from the people.

This is the assessment of RUC XI chief Brig. Gen. Jaime C. Echeverria as he denounced Tuesday's ambush-slaying of innocent civilians in Manticao, Misamis Oriental as "uncivilized and very cruel."

Newspaper reports indicate that women and children were among the casualties in the daylight ambush at the same spot where five "kabisig" were earlier reported to have been executed by NPA cadres.

"The incident is not unprecedented and confirmed reports of returnees that the CPP has directed the NPA to take active measures not only against civilians supportive of government programs but also followers of the non-communist opposition," Echeverria disclosed.

He claimed that the July 25 massacre of Malbang residents in Maasin, South Cotabato and the Manticao massacre both fit into a deliberate pattern of atrocities against civilians "to keep intact by terror a semblance of public support to the communist cause."

Echeverria was also quoted as saying that "the communists now see the non-communist opposition and the success of the government's social programs in the country side as the most various threats confronting their movement since the declaration of martial law."

Meanwhile, MHS sources said today that "public anger against the perpetrators of the Manticao massacre is mounting even as community development workers are urging barangay residents to double their efforts in the search for peaceful means to solve their problems."

A "kabisig" participant who refused to be identified said she was shocked by the

killing of her counterparts in Region 10. She described their work as "non-partisan and primarily seeks community action against poverty and colonial-mindedness." She explained that they are not regular employees of the Ministry of Human Settlements and are working voluntarily without remuneration from any government agency.

Why the CPP-NPA is murdering unarmed civilians is still raising eyebrows as local NDF sources vehemently disowned responsibility for the Ionticao massacre. In a hastily-prepared leaflets, the NDF squarely put the blame on government security forces "who are running wardogs of American imperialism."

Regional AFP spokesman and civil relations chief Lt. Col. Douglas O. Rosete branded the NDF claims as another exercise in "tightrope disinformation."

"They are trying hard to play on a lingering public mindset that the military is abusive and capable of doing such dastardly acts," Rosete said. (JBA. . .)

CSO: 4200/75

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

INCREASED ECONOMIC SUPPORT--The Philippines and the United States will sign an agreement providing for an additional \$45 million economic support fund on Monday in Malacanang. The signatories to the agreement are the First Lady and Human Settlements Minister Mrs Imelda Romualdez Marcos and Frederick (ship) chief of the United States Agency for International Development Mission in Manila. President Marcos and the U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines Stephen Bosworth will witness the signing ceremony. The additional \$45 million was earmarked by the United States Congress for [word indistinct] yesterday under the Philippine-American military bases agreement. [Word indistinct] loan fund set up by the Central Bank for the \$100 million loan [words indistinct] World Bank. [Words indistinct] the military portion of the bases compensation package and its [word indistinct] to the \$95 billion [words indistinct] by the Reagan administration for the Philippines. [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 1100 GMT 27 Sep 85]

UK AID FOR NEGROS CHILDREN--The children of Negros Occidental have received aid from the British Government. The aid, amounting to 760,000 pesos, will be used for nutrition, food production, and health services. The amount was handed by British Ambassador Robin MacLaren to Economic Planning Minister Vicente Valdepenas last Thursday. The aid is part of Britain's overseas program to provide emergency relief to areas of the developing world affected by disasters. [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0800 GMT 29 Sep 85]

REHABILITATION PROGRAM SAID SUCCESSFUL--The government is succeeding in the implementation of its rehabilitation program for subversives. Eduardo Ermita, commanding general of the [words indistinct] service of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines], said this was indicated by the number of surrenderees so far recorded by military units. The rehabilitation program was piloted earlier this year in Mindanao. Because of its success in that area, it was expanded throughout the country by virtue of Proclamation No 1048 issued by the president last 8 August. General Ermita said the program received at least 25,000 surrenderees from various parts of Mindanao, including members of the MNLF. [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 30 Sep 85]

30 October 1985

SULU OFFICIAL ASSASSINATED--Zamboanga City-based military commanders flew by helicopter to Sulu to defuse the reported tension gripping the capital city of Jolo following the assassination last Monday of Sulu Vice Governor (Alano Maldiza). The (Maldiza) clan has reportedly amassed some 200 armed followers to avenge his death in an ambush staged by some 10 heavily armed men on Martinez Street. Killed along with (Maldiza) was his brother (Ali Musa) while security escort (Nestor Giutano) was wounded in the attack. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 25 Sep 85]

RECOVERY PROGRAM SAID SUCCEEDING--Prime Minister Cesar Virata has cited tangible gains achieved by the national government under its national economic recovery program, in answer to claims by prophets of doom that the economy will not recover at all. Minister Virata said that the program is now in its second phase with the release of some 106 million pesos in special drawing rights from the International Monetary Fund. At present the government is vigorously pursuing its increased production program to within self-sufficiency [as heard]. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 27 Sep 85]

RICE STOCKS ASSURANCES--The government has enough rice supply to cope with any artificial shortages that will tend to hike prices when rice is removed from price controls starting 1 October. This was assured by Agriculture and Food Minister Salvador Escudero yesterday [27 September]. He said unscrupulous traders may resort to price speculation but the government can cope with any artificial shortages. Escudero admitted that the price of rice may initially rise during the first few days after price controls are lifted, but he said the prices will not be far from the prevailing government ceilings of 5 pesos 65 centavos a kilo to 6 pesos 20 centavos a kilo. He also said the existing rice stocks from the bumper crop ending last 30 June has exceeded the highest harvest record of 162 million cavans in 1982. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 27 Sep 85]

SAMAR NPA RAID--Fourteen people, including 11 civilians, were killed in an NPA raid in Santa Rita, Samar. A belated PC [Philippine Constabulary] report to Manila said the attack took place early Saturday morning. The victims were inside the house of a former NPA member in Barangay Tabao when the NPA attacked. Four others were wounded and were taken to the Romualdez Memorial Hospital in Tacloban City, Leyte. Reports said two of the NPA raiders were later killed in an encounter with government troopers. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 29 Sep 85]

MINDANAO JOURNALIST SLAIN--Cagayan de Oro, Philippines, 27 Sep (AFP)--Unidentified gunmen have killed a lawyer and newspaper columnist at his home in this southern city in front of his 16-year-old son, police said today. Claro Chavez, 41, was hit with three gunshots fired through a window of his home yesterday, police said. His son rushed him to a hospital, but he was pronounced dead on arrival. Police said they were considering three suspects but did not name them or cite any motives

for the slaying, although they indicated that they could be personal and unrelated to Mr Chavez' writings. The gunmen fled under cover of darkness. Mr Chavez was a columnist of the southern Philippines DAILY TRIBUNE, a local newspaper, and a member of two local press associations. Newsmen here considered him a moderate who did not take part in local politics. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0957 GMT 27 Sep 85]

NPA TAKES HOSTAGES--Manila, 29 Sep (AFP)--Communist guerrillas took a Baptist pastor and five others hostage after raiding a village near the southern Philippine city of Davao, a Manila newspaper reported today. The DAILY EXPRESS said communist New People's Army (NPA) rebels took the hostages after raiding militiamen's houses in Paquibato District Thursday. Military authorities in Davao had ordered marine troops to track down the guerrillas who were still holding the hostages, the daily said. Military spokesmen here could not immediately confirm the report. The NPA is the estimated 12,000-strong military wing of the banned Communist Party of the Philippines. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0920 GMT 30 Sep 85]

BENEFITS OF ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND--President Marcos yesterday [30 September] cited the gains to be benefitted by the government in the new \$45 million that will be made available under the economic support fund. The president [words indistinct] towards the successful termination of the economic recovery program [words indistinct] in the anti-insurgency campaign. The chief executive and U.S. Ambassador Stephen Bosworth signed at Malacanang the program agreement [words indistinct] additional economic support fund appropriation of \$45 million for this year. At the same time, the First Lady and Human Settlements Minister Imelda Marcos signed a \$12.5 million project agreement with Frederick (Schick) of the U.S. Agency for International Development. Mrs Marcos signed the accord in her capacity as [words indistinct]. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 30 Sep 85 HK]

PC KILLS TWO NPA SUSPECTS--Philippine Constabulary troopers caught up with two suspected members of a band of New People's Army terrorists which raided the Sariaya, Quezon, police station on September 23. The two suspects were killed in an encounter in Barangay (Bocol), Sariaya, at about 3 PM on September 25, 2 days after the NPA band raided and carted away 18 assorted firearms from the police station. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 30 Sep 85 HK]

MARCOS ASSURANCES ON SUGAR TRADING--President Marcos yesterday [1 October] reassured that planters and sugar millers can freely engage in the buying and selling of sugar. He also assured that enough crop loans would be available to sugar planters to achieve a minimum production of 1.3 million metric tons for the 1985-1986 crop year. The president made the announcement as he stressed that the domestic price of sugar should be maintained at 300 pesos per picul to ensure a reasonable margin of profit to all sectors in the sugar industry. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 1 Oct 85 HK]

ASEAN OPPOSITION TO JENKINS BILL--Trade and Industry Minister Roberto Ongpin yesterday [1 October] said that the economic ministers of ASEAN will consolidate their opposition to the Jenkins Bill pending at the U.S. House of Representatives in their meeting on October 17 in Bangkok, Thailand. Minister Ongpin said some ASEAN member-countries have proposed retaliatory measures if the United States Congress passes the controversial bill. He did not elaborate on what these proposed measures are. The bill, according to Mr Ongpin, is blatantly a protectionist piece of legislation and is very detrimental to the ASEAN countries. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 1 Oct 85 HK]

CSO: 4200/22

THAILAND

THAI DAILY CARRIES WHITE PAPER ON COUP ATTEMPT

BK090940 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 5 Oct 85 pp 6, 7

["White Book" on the "Chronology of the Coup Developments on 9 September 1985"--issued by the Royal Thai Army on 4 October]

[Text] Aspiration of the Army

The army will stand beside the people, and will fight for greater freedom for and the sovereignty of the people. It will struggle against all kinds of political, economic, and social injustice and unfairness--which are factors that cause war--and sources of communism causing problems and undermining the stability of the national institutions, religion, and monarchy. It will strive to achieve a full democratic system with the king as head of state in response to the aspirations of the Thai people.

[Signed] General Athit Kamlang-ek, Commander in Chief of the Army

A group of people created unrest in Bangkok warily on the morning of Monday, 9 September 1985. They resorted to military force, declaring the takeover of the country's administrative power, abrogating the constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand, and dissolving the parliament and the government. They engaged in violence through military actions resulting in the loss of life and property of the government and the people. Their action has caused inestimable loss to the nation's credibility and reputation.

The Internal Peace-Keeping Command, under Supreme Commander and Army Commander in Chief Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, who is also internal peace-keeping director, took action in order to correct the situation, which was worsening and becoming more violent. By combining jurisprudence and political principles, it was able to bring the untoward situation under control within a very short time.

After the situation had been brought back to normal, a group of ill-intentioned people both inside and outside the country tried to take advantage of the situation to undermine major national institutions, especially the military institution, which is the principal power for defending the national security and independence. They spread unfounded rumors and distorted statements slandering the armed forces and people in the armed forces. They want to undermine the unity and strength of the armed forces and the stability of the country.

The army has therefore published a document giving an account of what was done to solve the unrest on 9 September 1985, for the general public's information so that they can correctly understand the incident.

The Army's Chronology of the Unrest

The Beginning

On Monday, 9 September 1985, at about 0400 [2100 GMT on 8 September], a group of people led by a number of retired military officers sent their men to take over the Supreme Command Headquarters at Sanam Suapa. They abducted Air Chief Marshal Praphan Thupatemi, the air force commander in chief, and held him hostage at the Supreme Command Headquarters.

The plotters then sent their forces to take control of Government House, the Royal Plaza, the area surrounding the 1st Army Division, Royal Guards, the Public Relations Department, the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand (MCOT), and the News and Program Production Center of the Public Relations Department on Wiphawadi Rangsit Road.

Gen Athit Kamlang-ek Received a Report from Thailand.

Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, supreme commander and army commander in chief, was invited by the FRG, Swiss, and Italian governments to take a military observation tour of those countries so that he could help develop the Thai Armed Forces. [Name indistinct] was also invited by the Swedish Telecommunications Organization to view new communications system and technology there in his capacity as chairman of the board of the Telephone Organization of Thailand. After having received approval from the defense minister, Gen Athit Kamlang-ek and his party left Thailand on Saturday, 7 September, at 1230 with Sweden as the first destination.

When he was at the Sheraton Hotel in Stockholm, Gen Athit received a telephone call at about 0050 on 9 September 1985 [0550 on 9 September 1985, the time in Thailand] informing him that a group of people had taken over several major government offices by force. Gen Athit immediately contacted his personal aide, Colonel Montri Thipwathi, in order to get more details about the situation. He learned that the plotters drew their strength and acquired their tanks partly from the 4th Cavalry Battalion and the Air Force Security Department, and that they were led by retired military officers.

Setting Up of Internal Peace-Keeping Command

Gen Athit told Col Montri Thipwathi to coordinate with senior officers of the armed forces and officials of the Police Department in setting up an internal peace-keeping command at the 11th Infantry Regiment at Bang Khen to carry out the security plan. Col Montri Thipwathi reported to Gen Athit that senior officers of the army, navy, and air force, and officials of the Police Department and civil service--including Ten Thianchai Sirisamphan, deputy army chief and acting army commander in chief; Gen Banchop Bunnak, army chief of staff; Lieutenant General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, deputy army chief of staff;

Lt Gen Phichit Kunlawanit, 1st Army Region commander; and Major General Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, commander of the 1st Army Division--had gradually arrived at the 11th Infantry Regiment.

Gen Athit Gives Order

At about 0130 on 9 September 1985 (0630 in Thailand), Gen Athit made a telephone call to the Internal Peace-keeping Command and asked Lt Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut whether he had reported the incident to the prime minister. Lt Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut reported that the prime minister had been informed. Gen Athit Kamlang-ek then instructed Lt Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut about security measures to be taken, as follows:

1. Immediately provide full protection to the king, queen, and all members of the royal family.
2. Have the Internal Peace-keeping Command issue a statement or an order under the name of Gen Athit Kamlang-ek in his capacity as director of the Internal Peace-keeping Force. As it might be difficult for the Internal Peace-keeping Command to contact Gen Athit, since he was trying to return to Thailand as soon as possible, all contacts were to be made by Gen Athit Kamlang-ek himself.
3. Lt Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut must regularly report on the situation to the prime minister, and maintain contact with Gen Prachuap Suntharangkun, who was acting prime minister.
4. Try by all possible means to stop the unrest at the earliest possible point, based on the policy of protecting the peace and safety, and the life and property of the people and government. Action must be taken under supervision of Gen Thiangchai Sirisamphan, acting army commander in chief.

Gen Athit then asked to speak with Gen Thiangchai. He told the latter to carry out the order he gave to Lt Gen Chawalit. He would try to return to Thailand on the earliest flight.

After giving the initial order, Gen Athit told officials in his party to contact the Swedish Government and other countries to request a cancellation of his tour. He also asked the Telecommunications Organization of Sweden to provide him a special plane to fly to Bangkok; but what it could arrange for him was an ordinary flight from Stockholm, Sweden, to Copenhagen in Denmark.

Thai International Airlines Cooperates

Officials in Gen Athit's party contacted Thai International Airlines asking for a special flight from Copenhagen to Bangkok at the earliest time. The airline provided full cooperation, arranging for a flight as requested.

Plotters of the Unrest Issued Statement on Takeover.

At 0730 the plotters announced via Radio Thailand that the Revolutionary Party had taken over power from the government as of 0600 on Monday, 9 September 1985.

They declared that the parliament was dissolved and the constitution abrogated. They ordered ministry permanent secretaries and Bangkok military unit commanders at the regimental level upward to report to Building 604, Sanam Suapa, at 1000. The order was signed by Gen Soem Na Nakhon, leader of the Revolutionary Party. The plotters also stated that movement of military or police forces was strictly prohibited.

Internal Peace-keeping Command Issues Counterstatements.

The Internal Peace-keeping Command issued a statement through the 1st Army Division Radio, acting as head of the radio network of the army, navy, air force, and supreme command. The statement said that the government remained in control of the administration and had the situation under control. It also instructed all units to listen only to orders from Gen Thianchai Sitsamphan, who was giving orders on behalf of Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, director of the Internal Peace-keeping Force. The statement called on all units serving the plotters to immediately return to their positions, or else they would face severe punishment.

Gen Athit Kamlang-ek Gives Second Order.

Gen Athit again telephoned the Internal Peace-keeping Command at 0745 and asked Lt Gen Chawalit about the progress in establishing the peace-keeping command. He recommended the dispatch of forces to control various important installations, such as radio stations, television stations, and government installations, and the Bangkok airport.

Commander of the 1st Royal Guard Division, Maj Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, ordered the 11th Infantry Regiment to maintain security at Bangkok airport and to dispatch small units to facilitate reporting to the mass media and to provide security for the Internal Peace-keeping Command. He also ordered the 31st Infantry Regiment to prepare a platoon for air and vehicular dispatch.

At this time, Maj Gen Prasert Sararit, director of the Army Personnel Department, also reported on the situation to Gen Athit.

The Peace-keeping Command was informed that the prime minister would return from Indonesia in the afternoon. For this reason, the 1st Division commander [word indistinct] the commander of the 11th Infantry Regiment to provide security at the military airport and the route to the Peace-keeping Command, through coordination with the air force. This security force was to be ready by 1230.

Commander-level police and military officers, and senior army, navy, air force, police, and civilian officers began to report to the Peace-keeping Command.

Chronology of Events Between 0800 and 1000

0800: The Antiaircraft Artillery Division and the 11th Infantry Regiment were ready to implement orders.

The plotters issued an announcement dissolving the parliament and the constitution and tried to send two tanks into the 1st Army Division headquarters to seize the radio station of the 1st Army Division. This attempt failed.

0830: The Internal Peace-keeping Command, through Lt Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, formally reported the unrest situation to Prime Minister Gen Prem Tinsulanon, who was on an official visit to Indonesia.

0845: The Internal Peace-keeping Command issued successive orders, using the communication network of the 11th Infantry Regiment and the Army Operations Center, for the 2d Cavalry Division to dispatch a task force company to take control of the Public Relations Department; for the Antiaircraft Artillery Division to dispatch two platoons (M-42's) to guard the headquarters to the Peace-keeping Command; for the Special Warfare Unit to send a company of paratroopers to the Peace-keeping Command, with the support of the Army Aviation Center; for the Phra Mongkutklao Medical Center to provide ambulances, doctors, and support staff to the Peace-keeping Command; for the 2d Infantry Division to dispatch a battalion of the 21st Infantry Regiment to the initial gathering point at the military preparation school; for forces of the 1st Cavalry Division in Bangkok to submit to operational control by the 2d Cavalry Division; for the Army Military Police Regiment to provide security for Yothi Road; and for the 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th army regions, the navy, the air force, and the Police Department to be on alert status within their normal installations, and for their movements outside to be subject to orders from the commander of the Peace-keeping Command only.

0900: The coup party issued a statement criticizing the government and emphasizing the need to change the government's leader and the cabinet. Its criticism focused on the economy. In order to inform the public, the Peace-keeping Command issued a statement rejecting the coup party's allegations and stressed that soldiers who joined the coup party were to return to their units.

The Peace-keeping Command ordered every radio station to relay from the 1st Army Division Radio.

The Peace-keeping Command reported on the situation to Acting Prime Minister Gen Prachuap Suntharangkun.

0915: Maj Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, commander of the 1st Army Division, went to the 1st Artillery Battalion headquarters to take control of the situation.

0945: The Peace-keeping Command announced that Gen Soem Na Nakhon had contacted it in order to surrender, because he had been forced to join the coup party.

Gen Athit Kamlang-ek Gives Third Order

At about 0950: Gen Athit made another phone call to the Internal Peace-keeping Command. He was told by Lt Gen Chawalit that government forces still had not been able to regain control of the supreme command headquarters, which was used as the coup command by the coup plotters. So Gen Athit ordered them to step up efforts to regain control of it as soon as possible by giving the following instructions:

1. The Royal Thai Army was to have four helicopter gunships ready to support ground operations and to order two infantry battalions from the 1st Royal Guard Army Division, backed by reinforcements in the form of antiaircraft artillery guns and antitank weapons, to block off the roads and to put pressure on the coup plotters to surrender; the 1st Cavalry Battalion was to move in to provide protection to Army Television Channel 5, which would be used as the major communications network, while the 1st Royal Guard Infantry Regiment was to take charge of Television Channel 9. Special fast task forces with armoured personnel carriers were to carry out the assignments.
2. The Royal Thai Navy was to take over Television Channel 3.
3. The Royal Thai Air Force was to prepare aircraft with loudspeakers to make announcements from the air for the plotters to surrender and to ask the public to move out of the areas where government forces would move in to carry out operations.
4. The police were to be in charge of blocking the traffic at all intersections in the vicinity.

After that, Gen Athit talked to 1st Army Region commander Lt Gen Phichit Kunlawanit in order to ask him about the general situation and operations of the units under the 1st Army Region Command. Lt Gen Phichit reported that the Internal Peace-keeping Command had instructed the 1st Royal Guard Infantry regiment and the 11th Royal Guard Infantry Regiment to surround the coup plotters by blocking all roads leading to Sanam Suapa and ordered the 21st Royal Guard Infantry Regiment to send one battalion to move into a primary regrouping position to act as reinforcements. Gen Athit asked whether his majesty the king was constantly kept informed of the developments, and the 1st Army Region commander replied that he was doing so, and that he had ordered units in Bangkok to provide protection to all members of the royal family. At the same time, Lt Gen Phichit suggested that the Norasin unit remain attached to the 1st Army Region headquarters to serve as the task force to solve any problems. The army commander-in-chief approved this suggestion. Gen Athit then gave Lt Gen Phichit Kunlawanit the following orders:

1. To expeditiously carry out operations to end the incident as soon as possible.
2. To try to cause as few casualties as possible.

The Situation From 1000 to 1200

At 1000: The coup forces scattered around the 1st Army Division headquarters gradually closed in after failing to pressure the 1st Army Division Radio station to stop broadcasting counter coup announcements. The coup side began using tank artillery and machine guns to fire fiercely at the 1st Army Division Radio station, they damaged and put out of action the broadcasting studio, antenna, and transmitters. The coup forces also clashed with government forces who tried to surround them. The coup tanks tried to enter the 1st Army Division headquarters through the front gate, but the 3d Battalion of the 1st Royal

Guard Infantry regiment used water tanks to block their entry. As a result, the coup tanks withdrew and moved back to Sanam Suapa.

As a result of the fighting, three soldiers were severely wounded and 6 others slightly injured. One foreign television cameraman, Neil Davis, was instantly killed while another, William Latch, was wounded and died later. One soldier from the 1st Battalion of the 3d regiment was killed, and several houses were damaged.

1010: Gen Athit made a phone call to the 1st Royal Guard Artillery Battalion command and ordered 1st Royal Guard Army Division Commander Maj Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi to suppress the coup plotters as soon as possible and to try to avoid losses in lives and property. He also wished everyone good luck.

1020: Col Montri Thipwathi reported via long-distance telephone call to Gen Athit that the coup forces had clashed with the government forces at about 1000, and that coup tanks had fired on and put out of action the antenna, transmitters, and broadcasting studio of the 1st Army Division Radio station, and that the coup forces comprised 28 tanks and about one company of air marine security men.

1030: Tanks of the coup party again fired at the 1st Army Division radio station for about 5 minutes from in front of the Central Intelligence Department before moving toward Sanam Suapa.

The 2d Cavalry Division ordered the 3d Cavalry Battalion to dispatch one company to control the Public Relations Department. It ordered the 1st Cavalry Battalion to dispatch one company to augment the 1st Division and dispatch a platoon to augment the 2d Infantry Battalion of the 1st Infantry Regiment to control the Mass Communications Authority of Thailand. It ordered the dispatch of a military police platoon from the military police company of the 2d Cavalry Division to maintain security in the Victory Monument area. It ordered a small arms platoon from the company of the 2d Cavalry Division headquarters to provide security for Army Television Channel 5.

1100: Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan appeared on Army Television Channel 3 and Channel 9 by using the Army Television Channel 5's telecast van to telecast live from the Peace-keeping Command in order to inform the public about the true situation. Senior army, navy, air force, and police officials also appeared on television on the occasion.

Six operational units of the 10th antitank company moved from Sara Buri Province to the rally point at the 2d Cavalry Division to act as a rapid support force.

1115: Forces of the 1st Infantry Regiment's 3d Infantry Battalion and the 1st Artillery Battalion were able to control the situation in the Siam area.

1130: The clash between the government and the coup forces continued around the 1st Division. The coup force fired machineguns toward the intersection of Si Ayutthaya and Nakhon Ratchasima roads, wounding four 1st Artillery Battalion

soldiers. Fighting lasted about 15 minutes, killing a civilian--Mrs Wina Arsawatatsakun--and wounding a number of others.

1145: Forces of the 1st Infantry Division's 2d Battalion, augmented by a platoon from the 1st Cavalry Battalion, encircled the Mass Communications Authority of Thailand, which was under control of the coup party.

The Peace-keeping Command announced that the government, the legislative, and the judiciary still functioned under the constitution and asked permanent secretaries to report to the Peace-keeping Command at the 11th Infantry Regiment in Bang Khen. Senior military, police, and civilian officials reported there throughout.

Gen Athit Kamlang-ek Returned to Thailand

At about 0700 on 9 September--or about 1200 Bangkok time--Gen Athit and his party left the Sheraton Hotel in Stockholm for the airport and boarded an SAS flight to Copenhagen in order to take a special direct Thai International airlines flight to Thailand.

Events in Bangkok between 1200 and 1400

1200: Tanks of the coup party tried to move through the gate of the 1st Division but encountered resistance. The ensuing clash resulted in 1 soldier killed and 12 wounded.

1230: The 2d Infantry Division dispatched a battalion from the 21st Regiment in Chon Buri to the military preparation school.

The Peace-keeping Command organized a press conference for local and foreign newsmen at its headquarters, with Gen Thianchai Sirisanphan and his party reporting on the true situation and the results of the coup suppression.

The 2d Cavalry Division dispatched a psychological warfare team of the 12th Signals Battalion to operate against the coup force at the Mass Communications Authority of Thailand.

A large crowd gathered around 12 coup tanks parked at the royal plaza.

1245: Gen Athit arrived at Stockholm airport and contacted the Peace-keeping Command for an update on the situation.

1300: The Special Warfare Command dispatched a company from the 1st Special Warfare Division via helicopters of the Army Aviation Center in Lop Buri to the 11th Infantry Regiment for deployment as support force for the Peace-keeping Command.

The government, through Acting Prime Minister Gen Prachuap Suntharangkun and Interior Minister Gen Sitthi Chirarat, declared a state of emergency in Bangkok.

1315: Government V-150 armored vehicles were deployed behind the Chana Songkhram police station in support of the 3d Cavalry Battalion's planned takeover of the Public Relations Department.

Phichet Sathirachawan, director of the Bangkok Mass Transit Authority reported and said that Sawat Lukdot, Prathin Thamrongchoi, and Ekayut Anchanbut participated in the coup. The Peace-keeping Command therefore issued a warning to workers, asking them not to cooperate with Sawat and Thamrong, who were former union leaders.

1330: Twenty coup tanks, given fuel, were lined in a single row at the Royal Plaza facing Makkhavan Bridge.

Former union leader Prathin Thamrongchoi spoke to about 300-400 listeners, criticizing government economic performances. A number of coup tanks were deployed on the Si Ayutthaya road side, in front of Benchanabophit Temple, and near Dusit Zoo.

1345: The 1st Infantry Regiment's 2d Battalion, augmented by a 1st Cavalry Battalion's patrol platoon, peacefully took over the Mass Communications Authority. Coup soldiers surrendered their two tanks there. Tanks were then taken to the 2d Cavalry Division for safe storage and their arms and ammunition for storage at the 2d Infantry Battalion of the 1st Regiment.

1400: The 3d Cavalry Battalion's patrol company seized the Public Relations Department.

The Peace-keeping Command announced that Gen Yot Thephatsadin Na Ayutthaya, Gen Kriangsak Chamanan, Col Manun Rupkhachon, and Wing Commander Manat Rupkhachon were to surrender and issued an ultimatum for the coup soldiers to surrender by 1500 or face drastic armed suppression.

1420: Government aircraft with loud speakers flew above Sanam Suapa and asked coup soldiers to return to their normal units and to arrest coup plotters for the government.

Permanent secretary for interior issued announcement asking all governors to refrain from cooperation with the coup party.

1445: Prathin Thamrongchoi spoke to people at the Royal Plaza, criticising government performances. Gen Kriangsak Chamanan and Yot Thephatsadin Na Ayutthaya sought negotiation with the 1st Army region commander.

The Peace-keeping Command learned that the prime minister would return from Indonesia, arriving at Hat Yai airport at about 1650 and that he had sent a message expressing concern about what occurred, pledging to stand alongside the people, and asking the coup party to surrender.

The police director general ordered four fire trucks to the 1st Division in order to counter possible mob violence.

1450: Gen Athit and party left Stockholm airport for Copenhagen.

1500: The Peace-keeping Command warned crowds that had gathered to watch the situation at the royal plaza to disperse immediately and told former union leaders Prathin Thamrongchoi and Sawat Lukdot and workers who gathered at Amphon gardens to disperse.

Col Phatthana Phutthanon persuaded representatives of the coup party who had gathered near Amphon gardens to surrender to the government.

1515: Generals Soem Na Nakhon, Kriangsak Chaman, and Yot Thephatsadin Na Ayutthaya, air chief marshals Krasae Intharat and Arun Phromthep, and Col Manum Rupkhachon together with the air force commander went to the 1st Army Region headquarter to meet the 1st region commander to negotiate an end to all coup actions. They proposed as condition for their surrender safe passage out of the country for Col Manum Rupkhachon and sergeants Sanit Somanikon and Wichian Worachai. After consideration, the Peace-keeping Command felt that acceptance of the condition of the coup party would be the quickest way to end the unrest and would save lives and property of the people and the government. Therefore, the condition was accepted.

The Peace-keeping Command announced that the unrest ended and the situation was close to normal, with only crowds of workers refusing to disperse.

1530: Coup tanks were moved to the Royal Plaza and their crews covered the guns to ready them for return to their units.

1545: Gen Athit and his party arrived at Copenhagen airport and contacted the Peace-keeping Command through the representative of the Thai International Airlines office in London, who cooperated well. He was given a situation briefing by Lt Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut and Maj Gen Suchina Khraprayun, chief of the army operations department.

The coup participants surrender.

1600: Most of the coup participants gave themselves up to the Internal Peace-keeping Command at the 1st Army Region Headquarters.

1630: Soldiers from the 2d Cavalry Division led by Colonel Thotsaphon Songsuwan and patrol cars of the City Peace-keeping Command took control of 24 tanks and 95 surrendering soldiers attached to the 4th Royal Guard Cavalry Battalion and led them back to the command headquarters of the 2d Cavalry Division at Sanam Pao for detention, while 38 airmen from the Air Marine regiment were put under detention at the Air Marine Regiment command at Don Muang.

Lt Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut reported to Gen Athit Kamlang-ek through a representative of the Thai International Company in London, England, that the situation was completely under the control of the Internal Peace-keeping Command and that the coup participants had surrendered. Gen Athit Kamlang-ek ordered that further action would be taken when he sent more orders.

1640: The Internal Peace-keeping Command held another press conference in which Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan and other senior authorities in command took turns to give details of the incident from the beginning until the coup participants surrendered.

The Internal Peace-keeping Command instructed the forces from the 1st Royal Guard Army Division, the Antiaircraft Artillery Division, and the 2d Cavalry

Division to continue maintaining security in the areas under their respective responsibilities for some time.

The Prime Minister Arrives Back in the Country

1700: His excellency the prime minister arrived at the Hat Yai airport and made a television speech about 15 minutes before proceeding to the Thaksin Ratchaniwet Palace in Narathiwat Province to call on their majesties the king and queen.

1900: Col Manun Rupkhachon and two other non-commissioned officers left for Singapore on board an Air Force plane.

2000: The director general of the Information Department of the Foreign Ministry read a government statement in English over the television on the failure of the coup.

2245: His excellency the prime minister arrived at Don Muang military airport from Hat Yai.

The Developments on 10 September 1985

0015: His excellency the prime minister made a speech on Army Television Channel 5.

0200: The Internal Peace-keeping Command instructed units under the 1st Royal Guard Army Division, the 2d Cavalry Division, the Anti-aircraft Artillery Division, and the 2d Infantry Division to withdraw and return to their respective positions beginning at 0530.

0354: While the Thai International plane was flying over India, Gen Athit Kamlang-ek contacted the Bangkok airport air control tower to ask for information on additional developments, and was informed that the airport was safe and that the situation in Bangkok had returned to normal.

0420: Gen Athit Kamlang-ek and party arrived at Don Muang military airport and proceeded to the Internal Peace-keeping Command Headquarters to hold a meeting with senior military and police officers and to issue the following instructions:

The orders Issued by the Director of the Internal Peace-keeping Command After Returning to Bangkok:

1. All units and authorities concerned were instructed to closely monitor developments because the situation was not yet normal and to strictly obey only the orders of the director of the Internal Peace-keeping Command. They must report to the director of the Internal Peace-keeping Command every time they carry out an operation.
2. The director general of the Police Department was instructed to carry out an investigation on the incident and to report the outcome as soon as possible.

3. The commander of the 4th Royal Guard Cavalry battalion and the commander of the 1st Royal Guard Cavalry Regiment were to be detained and interrogated, along with all persons involved in sending out forces to carry out the coup.
 4. All other units, excluding those which were already carrying out operations, were instructed to stand ready to implement the peace-keeping plan.
 5. The commander of the 2d Cavalry Division was instructed to carry out an investigation on the preparation of the tanks used in the coup as well as the loading of tank artillery shells, and the Military Supreme Command was instructed to carry out an interrogation of those persons in charge of guarding the Joint Command Center of the Military Supreme Command.
 6. The police authorities were instructed to carry out an investigation and to arrest all persons who were involved in the coup and still remained at large.
 7. The Air Marine Regiment of the Air Force Command was instructed to make manpower transfers within the 1st Battalion of the Air Marine Regiment. The commander of this battalion and company commanders in the battalion must be detained.
 8. A survey was to be conducted to determine the losses inflicted on property of both the private and government sectors, including the injured and killed, so that initial relief aid could be carried out.
 9. The command headquarters of the Internal Peace-keeping Command was to be transferred from the 11th Royal Guard Infantry Regiment to the Joint Command Center of the Military Supreme Command at Sanam Suapa effective 0700.
- 0530: All units of the government force assigned to carry out the operations began to return to their barracks.
- 0700: Staff of the peace-keeping command began working at the Supreme Command Headquarters at Sanam Sua Pa.
- 0930: General Athit Kamlang-ek visited wounded soldiers and civilians at Phra Mongkutklao and Wachira hospitals and gave money to comfort them.
- 1100: General Athit Kamlang-ek, together with the navy and air force commander and the police director general, met with his excellency the prime minister for about 45 minutes.
- 1145: [General Athit Kamlang-ek] inspected the 1st Army Division Headquarters.
- 1300: General Athit Kamlang-ek ordered the Capital Security Command to be moved to the Internal Security Command inside the compound of the Supreme Command Headquarters and the Norasing unit to be stationed at Sanam Sua Pa by 1430. The supreme commander instructed the 2d Cavalry Division to dispatch a tank company to Sanam Sua Pa by noon on 11 September.

1700: General Athit Kamlang-ek and other senior military officers attended the bathing rites for government soldiers killed during the unrest and the royal-sponsored cremation ceremonies at Sommanan Wihan temple.

General Athit Kamlang-ek Inspected the General Situation

0030: General Athit Kamlang-ek inspected army, navy, air force, and police units in Bangkok metropolis and nearby areas until 0400.

Assistance for the Victims

The unrest caused losses of life and property among the people and to the government. Five persons were killed--two soldiers, two foreign journalists and a civilian--during the incident.

The two foreign journalists were later identified as Neil Davis and William Latch. The Police Forensic Institute conducted autopsies and told journalists the two men were killed accidentally by ricocheting shrapnel that punctured their vital organs.

Some 62 persons were wounded were received treatment at six hospitals namely Phra Mongkutklao, Wachira, the Central, Ramathibadi, the Mission, and Sirirat Hospitals.

Those who were slightly wounded were allowed to return home after receiving first aid treatment from the hospitals while those whose condition was listed as serious remained in hospital. At present, some 27 persons wounded during the incident are still in hospital--22 of them at Sirirat.

As for the losses to private property, about 20 people's houses and a number of cars and motorcycles were damaged.

Concerned over the losses of life and property of the people caused by the unexpected difficulty, Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, who is director of the Internal Peace-keeping Command, expressed his regrets and ordered the authorities concerned both from the military and civil service to immediately provide essential help to them. Gen Athit Kamlang-ek personally visited the wounded at hospitals and attended religious ceremonies for the dead. When he could not attend funeral ceremonies for the dead because he had to tend to official duties, Gen Athit sent senior officials from the army to lay wreaths and present condolences on his behalf to their families.

The army received full cooperation from the government and private sector in coordinating work to provide help for the people. First, on Tuesday, 10 September 1985 it dispatched five mobile units of military engineers, construction officials from the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, the National Housing Authority, and the Public Welfare Department, to survey the damage and plan immediate repairs.

Concerning special cases which need additional assistance, the Interior Ministry requested a budget of 2 million baht from the cabinet's Central Fund. This was approved.

The authorities concerned from both the military and the civil service regularly visited the wounded victims and relatives of the dead to express regrets, sympathy, and moral support to them. They arranged with official units concerned to provide help to those people if so requested.

This shows that the government and the private sector regard it is their most urgent duty to care for the people in their hour of need because the plight of the people is the plight of the country.

Situation Returns to Normal

The situation continued to improve after 10 September 1985. Gen Athit Kamlang-ek therefore proposed that the government lift the emergency status in Bangkok. The government approved the proposal and the state of emergency in Bangkok was lifted on 16 September 1985.

The Internal Peace-keeping Command was able to put down the unrest on 9 September 1985 and brought the situation back to normal in a short time with a minimum loss of life and property in the government and private sectors thanks to the sublime power of their majesties the king and the queen.

The swift reaction of Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, director of the Internal Peace-keeping Command, in dealing with the incident; his instruction to have the government soldiers immediately set up an internal peace-keeping center to suppress the unrest based on the policy of peaceful negotiation; and finally the solidarity and unity of the members of the government, military, police, and civilian officials, as well as the [word indistinct] in the nation who uphold [word indistinct] and sovereign right under the democratic [word indistinct] of government with the king a head of state, all this contributed to forcing the side who created the unrest and who had been misled to lay down their weapons and surrender to the government. This helped the country to avoid more material and physical losses. The army is deeply sorry for the families of the dead and wounded and those who suffered material losses caused by this unrest. The army has done its best to provide help to those people within the scope of its responsibility.

The armed forces are capable of defending the country's independence and sovereignty. It has been proved to the Thai people both inside and outside the country that they are a powerful tool the state can use to guarantee the country's stability and security and to intimidate the enemy. This can be attributed to the unity and solidarity among the armed forces' personnel. The army, therefore, wishes to make it known to all that any person who creates disunity or undermines the armed forces intentionally or unintentionally undermines his own nation, and the army will never tolerate such an act.

The army wishes to reaffirm to all fraternal Thai people that the army has always adhered to the democratic form of administration with the king as the head of state and always stands shoulder to shoulder with the people to fight all injustices. The army thus appeals to all fraternal people to consider all developments impartially and help eliminate all the adversaries who are trying to undermine our beloved armed forces and country so that we will be able to bring further development and prosperity to our country, like other civilized nations.

CSO: 4207/25

THAILAND

EDITORIAL OBJECTS TO MALAYSIAN TROOPS IN THAILAND

Bangkok NAEQ NA in Thai 10 Aug 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Foreign Troops"]

[Text] Maj Gen Panya Singsakda, the deputy commanding general of the 4th Army Area and the deputy chairman of the Thai-Malaysian Border Committee, said that Malaysian troops should be given permission to conduct operations in Thailand against the Malayan Communist Party. These would be joint military operations.

The reason given by the deputy commanding general of the 4th Army Area was that these operations would be conducted based on the Thai-Malaysian Military Agreement and that this would help reduce Thai casualties in operations against the guerrilla units of the Malayan Communist Party.

This idea of the deputy commanding general of the 4th Army Area, which will be submitted to the National Security Council, must be considered very carefully to determine how suitable it is and to determine what the advantages and disadvantages are.

We gave Malaysian troops permission to operate in Thailand once before. But this caused many problems. Many times, the Malaysian forces conducted operations without informing Thai military or civilian officials beforehand. Many innocent Thai civilians were killed or suffered losses as a result of these operations.

Besides this, when they carried on operations inside Thailand, the Malaysian troops left weapons behind for the separatist bandits, who are still openly supported by one political party in Malaysia. The leaders of this movement are still living comfortably in Malaysia.

When there was a great uproar about these things, this agreement was annulled. Now, there is just military coordination. The Thai military is responsible for suppressing the terrorists in Thailand.

The Malayan Communist Party poses a security problem for Malaysia just as the separatist bandits pose a security problem for Thailand. While we have cooperated closely with Malaysia in suppressing the Malayan Communist Party, Malaysia has never cooperated in suppressing the separatist bandits.

Allowing foreign troops to conduct operations in our country represents a loss of sovereignty and national integrity. This should be allowed only in times of greatest necessity, for example, if our country was invaded or if our military was so weak that it couldn't take any action.

Besides the problem of national sovereignty and integrity, something else that must be considered is the political effect that this would have.

In considering a problem, you can't consider just one aspect. The same is true for this problem. Looking just at the suppression effects is looking at things in a nearsighted way.

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CSO: 4207/296

THAILAND

MUSLIMS ANGRY AT SAUDIS OVER VISA REJECTIONS

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 11 Aug 85 pp 1, 18

[Unsigned article]

[Excerpt] At 1430 hours on 9 August, about 100 Thai Muslims staged a protest demonstration in front of the Saudi embassy, which is located in the Wang Lee building on Rama IV Road in Bangkok Metropolitan. They were angry over the fact that the embassy had refused to issue them visas to visit Mecca to perform the Hajj ceremony. They were led by Mr Mohamad Binyusup. On the morning of 10 August, Mr Mohamad Binyusup talked with reporters about what had really happened. He said:

Because the Hajj period, which runs from 22 to 27 August, is at hand, many Thai Muslims who wanted to make the Hajj had gone to the Saudi embassy to request a visa. Of these, 20 have not yet been granted a visa. The Saudi embassy has refused to give a reason for not issuing them a visa. Among those who have not been granted a visa are Mr Sutchai Wongari, a member of the Islamic Central Committee of Thailand and the deputy head of the Islamic faith in Thailand, Dr Imron Malulin, the secretary to the head of the Islamic faith in Thailand and Mr Banchong Binkasan. In the case of Dr Imron, it was the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that requested a visa on his behalf since he has been appointed the head of the Thai delegation in the Hajj ceremony. But the Saudi embassy refused to grant him a visa. This is considered to be a great insult to Thais and to Thai officials.

Thus, these Thai Muslims, who love justice, held this demonstration in order to make three requests. Mr Mohamad served as their representative in meeting with Mr Mohamad Madi Almulia, the charge d' affaires. He asked that all the Thai Muslims who had requested visas be given visas. If there was some problem, he asked that the Saudi embassy inform the Office of the Head of the Islamic Faith in Thailand, which is the representative of the Muslims in Thailand. He also asked that in coming years, the Saudi embassy grant visas to Muslims making the Hajj without restrictions.

Mr Mohamad Binyusup also said that after these requests were submitted to the charge d' affaires, he refused to listen to their reasons and told them that it was his right to issue or not issue a visa. He refused to accept any request. Thus, Mr Mohamad went and informed the demonstrators. They left and

made preparations to use resolute protest methods. Thai Muslims have carried on activities showing their great dissatisfaction with the Saudi embassy. Mr Mohamad said that he does not think that it is the policy of the Saudi embassy to prevent people from making the Hajj. This was probably ordered by someone who works at the embassy, someone whom demonstrators once wanted deported but who is still there.

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CSO: 4207/306

THAILAND

LEGAL POLITICAL PARTIES, LEADERS LISTED

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 9 Aug 85 p 5

[Civil Servant Corner column by "C 12": "The Political Parties"]

[Text] At a time when there is great argument over which political parties hold seats in parliament, Mr Chalong Kanyanmit, the director-general of the Department of Local Administration, issued a report on the political parties. This report listed the names of the political parties that have registered properly in accord with the 1981 Political Parties Act. It also gave the names of the present leaders of these parties.

The 20 political parties that are legally registered are:

1. The Free Peoples Party led by Mr Wattana Khiewwimon, 2. the Thai Masses Party led by Cpt Somwang Sarasat, 3. the Democrat Party led by Mr Phichai Rattakun, 4. the Saha Chat Party led by Mr Phattna Phayakkhonithi, 5. the Thai Nation Party led by Maj Gen Praman Adireksan, 6. the Prachakon Thai Party led by Mr Samak Sunthonwet, 7. the National Democracy Party led by Gen Kriangsak Chamanan, 8. the New Force Party led by Mr Suthep Wongkamhaeng, 9. the Social Action Party led by M.R.W. Khukrit Pamot, 10. the Pracharat Party led by Mrs Sira Patmakhom, 11. the Democratic Labor Party led by Mr Seri Suchatapradan, 12. the Freedom Party led by M.R.W. Seniphrom Konlat, 13. the Social Democrat Party led by Col Somkhit Sisangkorn, 14. the Siam Democracy Party led by Mr Choetsak Saenwiset, 15. the Pracha Thai Party, which is now changing its executive committee, 16. the Progressive Party led by Mr Uthai Phimchaichon, 17. the Thai Patriots Party, which is now changing leaders, 18. the Democracy Party led by Mr Chumphon Maninet, 19. the Farmers Party led by Mr Sa-at Homsuwan, and 20. the Mass Party led by Mr Somsak Phakhipho.

Of these 20 political parties, only 9 hold seats in parliament. Those nine are: the Free Peoples Party, the Thai Masses Party, The Democrat Party, the Thai Nation Party, the Prachakon Thai Party, the National Democracy Party, the Social Action Party, the Social Democrat Party and the Progressive Party.

As for the Siam Democracy Party, it is still not clear whether it holds a seat in parliament. The Ministry of Interior agrees that it does and so it has allowed a candidate from this party to run in the by-election in Nakhon Ratchasima Province. However, the House of Representatives, through its speaker, Mr Uthai Phimchaichon, does not agree. And so this party has a problem. When will the matter be cleared up? This has been going on for too long now.

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CSG: 4207/306

THAILAND

EDITORIAL URGES ASEAN ECONOMIC SUMMIT

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 9 Aug 85 p 3

[Editorial: "ASEAN and the Economic Problem"]

[Text] In an interview with the BANGKOK POST, M.R.W. Khukrit Pramot, the leader of the Social Action Party, the largest political party in the government, called on the prime minister to hold a summit meeting with the leaders of the ASEAN countries as soon as possible in order to discuss the economic problems in this region.

The leader of the SAP proposed that those attending the ASEAN summit meeting quickly draft an agreement on forging economic unity by establishing a free-trade zone, a customs union and finally a common market in order to solve the economic problems in the Southeast Asian region. Things are growing worse because of the lack of world economic stability and because of the use of trade protectionist policies by the developed countries.

The leader of the SAP was correct when he said that the main objective in forming ASEAN was to promote cooperation on economic matters. During the 18 years that ASEAN has been in existence, very little progress has been made in achieving economic cooperation. Much time has been wasted discussing the Cambodian problem, in which no progress has been made either.

Regardless of why little progress has been made in achieving economic cooperation among the ASEAN countries, what is clear is that the ASEAN countries are all experiencing severe economic problems that stem from internal problems, the world economic situation and the trade protectionist policies of the United States, the EEC and Japan, which pose a threat to ASEAN's economic growth.

The main objective in establishing ASEAN is clearly expressed in the Bangkok Declaration, which was implemented on 8 August 1967. That main objective is to promote economic, social and cultural development, promote peace in the region and foster cooperation and mutual help in the economic, social, cultural and technical sectors.

But there have been only two summit meetings during the past 18 years. The only meetings held have been the annual foreign ministers meetings, with this

year's meeting being the 18th meeting. And in recent years, they have focused on the Cambodian problem. Thus, the suggestion made by the leader of the SAP should receive serious and urgent attention by the prime minister and the governments of the other ASEAN countries. They need to discuss the economic problems, which are urgent.

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CSO: 4207/306

THAILAND

COLUMNIST VIEWS CASTRO INFLUENCE ON DEBTOR STATES

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 8 Aug 85 p 2

[Window on the World column by Sunthon Wathi: "The Movement To Transform the Debt"]

[Text] What exactly are the economic problems that are having such a serious effect on the developing countries? The problems may differ from country to country but one that is common to all these countries is "debt." Many countries are in great debt. While Thailand is not in the "top ten," it is right behind.

This is clear from the fact that more than 20 percent of the 1986 fiscal budget, which has been set at over 200 billion baht, is for servicing our foreign debt. And most of this just goes to pay the interest, not the principal.

The countries with the most severe debt problem are the Latin American countries. The debt problem, which stems from economic matters, has become a political problem. The person who is making great use of the foreign debt problem to win support in Latin America is Fidel Castro of Cuba. During the 26 years since the Cuban revolution, Castro has tried to win friends in neighboring countries. But he has had little success. Many countries are afraid of communism. Only Nicaragua has followed suit.

However, the debt problem is a major problem, and so Castro has taken this opportunity to win friends. Many countries in that region, including Brazil, Argentina, Mexico and Venezuela, are among the "top ten" debtors in the world. Together, their foreign debt totals \$360 billion, on which they must pay interest of \$40 billion a year.

Castro tried to mobilize these countries by calling a meeting of debtor nations at the beginning of this month. He called on them to refuse to pay their debts, claiming that the creditor nations have been exploiting the debtor nations for a century. His main target is the United States since the largest creditors are U.S. banks. If the debtor nations follow Castro's suggestion, there will be turmoil in the world economy. The first victims, the U.S. banks, will collapse, and this will have repercussions everywhere. And what will happen after that?

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CSO: 4207/306

THAILAND

MILITARY SOURCE ON NEED FOR ISOC; CPT ACTIVITIES

Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 28 Jul 85 pp 1, 14

[Unsigned article]

[Excerpt] Today, the armed terrorist activities of the communist terrorists have declined to the point where it can be said that terrorism is no longer a problem. Thus, since the communist terrorists no longer pose a threat, some people wonder why the Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC) hasn't been disbanded, too. All this does is waste money.

A senior army officer who is responsible for activities in this sphere told NAE0 NA that even though the communist terrorists are no longer active, the ISOC is still needed. The budget funds are no longer used for communist suppression activities but are instead used for national development activities, such as People's Volunteers for Development and Self-Defense villages, the Reserves for National Defense program, the Volunteer Defense Corp, allotting land to landless people, and so on.

The news source said that the communists are no longer capable of carrying on an armed struggle. Thus, they have disbanded and are living among the people in the plains and towns. They are now waging an ideological struggle, both openly and secretly. We must win this ideological struggle by telling people that a democratic form of government with the king at the head is the most suitable form of government for Thailand.

The reporter asked him what the situation was like in the ideological struggle now being waged by the communist terrorists. He said that the ISOC and the units concerned, such as the Special Branch Division, the National Intelligence Office, the Central Intelligence Department and the National Security Council, are monitoring this. If we can make arrests, we will do so. But their activities are not too serious. Because after they disbanded their forces and came to live in the cities, it was as if they were beginning all over again. But it can't be said that they don't have capabilities.

The reporter asked whether there was any chance of a communist revival in Thailand. The news source said that that is unlikely since the people now know what the communists are like. The students who joined the communist movement failed and finally left the jungle. They now have a good understanding of this

matter. However, the communists are still trying to gain strength. It all depends on whether we understand these things.

The reporter asked whether oppression by government officials was still a serious problem. The news source said that in each region of the country, the ISOC receives about 100-200 complaints a month. Thus, for all regions of the country, the ISOC receives about 2,000 complaints a month. Some matters cannot be handled by the regional ISOC offices and so they are submitted to ISOC headquarters. Most of the problems concern work places. Other cases concern oppression by officials and injustices.

The news source said that the number of cases in which government officials have treated people unfairly and acted illegally is declining because the government has begun punishing people harshly. In such cases, people appeal not only to district and provincial officials but also to officials at the center. Officials are afraid that people will file complaints and petitions. Through its "moral relations" program, the ISOC regularly provides training to officials on how to act toward the people. Thus, it should be possible to solve this problem.

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CSO: 4207/296

THAILAND

OFFICER, MINISTRY ON LAO BORDER CLAIM, FIGHTING

Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 26 Jul 85 pp 1, 2, 10

[Article; "Proof That Laos Has Distorted Things, Sent Troops to Retake the Three Villages and Tried to Make It Seem As If Thailand Is in the Wrong"]

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs took reporters to the three villages on the Thai-Lao border and proved that Laos has deceived the people of the world. It has charged that Thailand sent troops there even though we withdrew our forces a long time ago. Laos has sent troops 2 km into Thai territory.

On 25 July, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs took reporters to see what is really going on at the three villages that are at the center of this conflict, that is, Ban Sawang, Ban Mai and Ban Klang in Uttaradit Province.

Lt Col Krairuk Khanthongkham, the commander of the special affairs unit, Cavalry Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, which is the unit responsible in this area, told reporters that Thai forces withdrew from the three villages in October 1984 in order to reduce the tension and solve this problem through negotiations. A total of 992 residents of these villages fled when the troops left since they were afraid for their safety and did not want to live under Lao administration. Later on, 262 of these people returned to the three villages. The Department of Public Welfare has provided living quarters for the remaining 730 people at Ban Huai Yang, which is located approximately 10 km inside Thailand.

Lt Col Krairuk said that it is still not clear to whom the three villages belong. However, Lao forces, whom we consider to be invaders, have seized the three villages. Laos has sent approximately 500 troops 2 km into Thailand. Besides this, it has set up bases only 500 meters from the border. "Thailand does not want the tension to increase, but we reserve the right to expel invaders from Thai territory."

Lt Col Krairuk said that in the clashes that have occurred since October 1984, Thailand has suffered 43 casualties. Of these 38 were soldiers and 5 were civilians. Two died. Five Lao soldiers have been killed, 2 have surrendered and 14 have been captured.

Mr Sawanit Khongsiri, the director-general of the Information Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, told reporters that at the beginning of July prior to the ASEAN foreign ministers meeting, Mr Phoun Sipaseut, the Lao minister of foreign affairs, sent a note to Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, the Thai minister of foreign affairs. The note was sent through Mr Somphong Faichampa, the Thai ambassador to Laos. In the note, he stated that Laos wants to negotiate with Thailand on this matter. But as a condition for holding negotiations, he said that Thailand must withdraw its forces from the three villages, return the Lao villagers and pay compensation for the damage.

Mr Sawanit said that it is clear that Thailand does not have any troops in the three villages. Also, the villagers who fled did so of their own free will. He said that Thailand could not accept these conditions. "Thailand has attempted to show what the facts are. We are ready to negotiate if a clear agenda for the negotiations can be established. Laos has said that it wants to negotiate, but it has constantly attacked Thailand. Every time that it has called for negotiations, it has failed to provide details. We don't know what they want to discuss. There is almost certainly someone behind this. Thailand and Laos once agreed that if a minor matter occurred, local officials would be allowed to solve the problem. But Laos has turned this into a major issue. If Laos is sincere, it should act in accord with that agreement."

11943

CSO: 4207/296

THAILAND

VILLAGERS' VIEWS CITED TO SUPPORT LAO BORDER CLAIM

Bangkok NAEON in Thai 28 Jul 85 p 3

[Article by Bunchai Mahanthananchai: "Report From Ban Huai Yang in Uttaradit Province: The Struggle for the People of the Three Disputed Villages Along the Thai-Lao Border"]

[Text] At the beginning of October 1984, longhouses made of elephant grass were hurriedly built here. But now, Ban Huai Yang, which is considered to be a center for Lao refugees from the three villages under dispute, has been transformed. Approximately 100 houses with tin roofs are spread about the area.

The lives of the more than 700 Lao refugees who fled from Ban Klang, Ban Mai and Ban Sawang, which are located approximately 8 km to the east near the Thai-Lao border in Uttaradit Province, have returned to normal after having had to flee the fighting between Thai and Lao forces.

More than 100 children are now attending the four-room school that was built there. The same teacher returned to teach again, but in a different language.

Khamla Khamnawong, a 20-year-old teacher, is one of those who fled from Ban Mai. He returned to his former village for 1 day and then returned to Ban Huai Yang. He said that all of his relatives had fled to Ban Huai Yang. The day that he returned to Ban Mai, he went straight to his home; he did not stop anywhere else on the way. But the Lao soldiers there came and told him to move back to his native village since "if you live at the center, the Thai troops will not let you go anywhere."

In Laos, the longest trip that he had ever taken was to Luang Prabang. He went there in order to sell livestock. Besides Ban Mai, which is where he was born, he once lived in Sayaboury for several years. He said that he had to go live in Sayaboury in order to attend secondary school and obtain his teaching credential. During that period, he lived with another family and had to work for them in return for his room and board. He then returned to his native village and went to work as a teacher.

One of the things that Mr Khamlo remembered clearly was that when he was a primary student at Ban Mai, the school had just one teacher named "Di." During the period that Savang Vatthana was king and Prince Souvanna Phouma was prime minister, a child by the name of Di Chaidet began school at Ban Pa Klai, his native village. From the Bo Oh school, he moved to the Na Rai Dieu school, which was a teacher's training school. He graduated from the Vientiane Nua school in Vientiane City in 1963. Di Chaidet earned the title "teacher". He can still speak French today even though he was sent to teach primary school at Ban Mai soon after he graduated.

Di met and fell in love with a girl from Na Noi District in Nan Province who was working in Ban Mai. They married and now have seven children. His life went smoothly until one day during the time of the Lao revolution, approximately 70 Lao liberation soldiers came to Ban Mai. This was during the period that Laos became a socialist country.

Di said that "Lao soldiers have never done anything for the people. They have only taken from the villagers."

Di is now 39 years old. His entire family fled to Ban Huai Yang to escape the fighting between Thai and Lao troops. He is very happy with his new life and pleased by the help given by the Thai government, which is different from before when "no one gave any help."

Today, Di is again working as a primary school teacher, the job in which he is skilled. He works with 11 other teachers, one of whom is Khamlao, who was a student of his 10 years ago.

The corn in the fields is more than a meter tall. The paddy seedlings are growing well. Land that had been left fallow for a period is being plowed during the rainy season. Much of the jungle area around Ban Huai Yang is being cleared so that people can come and live here. When construction on the large reservoir has been completed, there will be water to farm more than 1,000 rai of land there.

Sawai Saengphet, the 42-year-old headman of Ban Huai Yang who fled from Ban Sawang, said the same thing as Khamla and Di. He said that he did not want to return to the three villages since "making a living there is inconvenient and I do not like the administrative system of the Lao troops."

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CSO: 4207/296

THAILAND

EDITORIAL CITES FAILURES OF PAST NESDB PLANS

Bangkok NAEON in Thai 26 Jul 85 p 3

[Editorial: "The 6th Development Plan"]

[Text] The cabinet will hold a special meeting on Monday, 29 July, in order to study the details of the 6th Economic and Social Development Plan, which the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board [NESDB] has finished drafting.

The national economic and social development plans, which are 5-year plans, are policies that each government must implement. They are the actual policies used in administering the country. The policies of the political parties, no matter how wonderful they sound, are meaningless. They are just policies to gain votes.

What must be noted is that Thailand began using national development plans in 1961. The latest development plan, the 5th Development Plan, will conclude next year. But during these 25 years of development, what has been accomplished?

In the past, we had only 20,000 km of roads. This has now increased to more than 100,000 km. Formerly, we had only about 20,000 factories. Now we have 100,000. But at the same time, our foreign debt, which used to be almost nil, has skyrocketed to almost 500 billion baht. Because of this debt, almost 25 percent of this year's and next year's budget must be spent on servicing the debt.

The previous five development plans have greatly enhanced the economic positions of certain people. In the past, these wealthy people each had assets totaling 10 to 100 million baht. Now, they have immense assets valued at upwards of 10 billion baht. They are among the most wealthy people in the world.

But on the other hand, poverty has increased, too. Besides the fact that the poor people have become even poorer, more and more people in the middle class are finding themselves in dire straits in terms of their actual incomes and expenses.

The previous five development plans have greatly widened the gap in society. Even though the 5th Development Plan stressed narrowing this gap in society, nothing was achieved. There is the feeling that development just makes the poor and middle class people poorer while making the rich even richer.

The government must ask itself whether the 6th Development Plan will continue on this path. Will it further widen the gap or will it solve this problem?

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CSO: 4207/296

THAILAND

BRIEFS

TRADE WITH EGYPT--Mr Phairot Chaiyaphon, the deputy minister of commerce, talked with reporters at the Government House after taking Sultan Abu Ali, the Egyptian minister of economy and trade, to see the prime minister. Reporters asked what was discussed during the visit by this Egyptian official. Mr Phairot replied that bilateral trade issues were discussed. We asked Egypt to buy more Thai goods. Normally, they purchase tobacco leaves, rice, sugar, pineapple, canned food and cassava pellets from Thailand. Mr Phairot said that during the discussions, it was agreed that we would sell Egypt at least \$30 million worth of goods each year. Egypt wants to sell cotton and aluminum ore to Thailand. Reporters asked about trade between Thailand and Egypt in the past. Mr Phairot said that trade varied every year. Some years, we have had a trade surplus of 200 million; some years it has been 180 million. We have always had a trade surplus with them. But in 1985, Egypt has reduced its purchases from Thailand, and we have reduced our purchases from Egypt. We have held discussions in order to expand trade between the two countries. [Text] [Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 9 Aug 85 pp 3, 2] 11943

CITIZENSHIP FOR CPM GUERRILLAS--Maj Gen Panya Singsakda, the deputy commanding general of the 4th Army Area, discussed granting citizenship to CPM guerrillas. At present, the matter is still under discussion by the units concerned. The NSC wants to know the results of the military operations. The policy on this will probably be reviewed. The deputy commanding general said that he does not think that it is necessary to grant Thai citizenship to these people. These people, who are Malaysians, have asked to settle down in Thailand. Letting them stay here if they do not create problems is enough. Maj Gen Panya also said that at present, there are very few CPM guerrillas left as compared with the number of bandit terrorists. From those who have surrendered, it has been learned that the bandit terrorists are stronger numerically. At the same time, the number of communist terrorists has declined, too. "Officials are now pursuing the leaders of the CPM guerrillas in order to get them to surrender. Also, military operations have been carried out in order to put pressure on them," said Maj Gen Panya. [Text] [Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 26 Aug 85 p 12] 11943

POLICE DISCOVER AMMUNITION CACHE--After receiving a report on the discovery of a quantity of AK ammunition at an area in Ban Nam Phang, Tambon Chondaeng, Chiang Klang District in Nan Province Police Colonel Khamron Liyawanit, commander of the Border Patrol Police Zone 5 at Dararatsami Camp stationed in Mae Rim District of Chiang Mai Province; his deputy, Police Lieutenant Colonel Prayun Phaengsawat, Police Second Lieutenant Nit Khunrat; a member of a psychological warfare unit of the Border Patrol Police Zone 5; and other policemen boarded a helicopter at 1300 on 5 October to take them to the area adjacent to the Thai-Lao border. At the same time, he ordered police to clear the area. When the police authorities arrived in the area, they encountered a group of 10 unidentified people with weapons who fled into the jungle about 10 m from the border. Police authorities tried to follow the group but could not find them. They returned to excavate the area where ammunition was believed to be buried. After digging for awhile, they discovered 24,000 rounds of Chinese AK-47 ammunition in 40 zinc-lined crates. The ammunition is still like new and worth about 250,000 baht. The authorities transported the ammunition to a helicopter base in Thung Chang District, Nan Province. It will be sent to the combined civilian-police military unit 32 later. [Excerpts] [Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 6 Oct 85 p 20 BK]

RANGERS HUNT COMMUNIST GROUP--Major General Thamnu Phutphat, chief of staff of the 4th Army Region, reported on 4 October that the 43d Ranger Volunteer Unit has been instructed to hunt down the communist terrorist group that ambushed and killed Sergeant Suthin Yanghatthi, member of the Special Combat Training Center in Sichon District of Nakhon Si Thammarat, and Muan Ngamkham while they were traveling on a motorcycle in the village group 4, Tambon Chalong, Sichon District early this month. The victims were believed to have been killed because they were part of the 4th Army Region's attempt to suppress illegal logging and ore mining carried out by the communist terrorist group led by Chamnan Banchongkhang, or Comrade Kaeo. The group is active in Nakhon Si Thammarat and part of Surat Thani. The group has about seven or eight members. [Text] [Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 6 Oct 85 p 2 BK]

CSO: 4207/25

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

PROGRESS IN RESTORING AGRICULTURE REVIEWED

BK031244 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 2 Oct 85

["Article" by station correspondent (Cheang Yaret): "Agriculture Under the New Regime"]

[Text] The Cambodia fatherland is a country that favors agriculture. Its fertile soil and warm climate favor all crops. About 90 percent of the Cambodian people are peasants who traditionally earn their living by planting crops.

However, under the regimes of the feudalists and the capitalists and under the genocidal regime of the most subservient and cheap lackeys of the colonialists, the imperialists, and the Beijing Chinese expansionist-hegemonists, our Cambodian people were seriously oppressed. Our people are very angry with these regimes and they can never forget their oppression. Moreover, our people have successfully transformed this anger into a vigorous and dynamic struggle against the lackeys of the Beijing Chinese expansionist-hegemonists and the imperialists.

The 7 January 1979 victory revived the Angkor fatherland. Immediately after liberation, our peasants enthusiastically made every effort to grow crops under the wise leadership of the party which has implemented Marxism-Leninism in conformity with the reality of our fatherland. In the past nearly 7 years, our people formed more than 100,000 solidarity production groups. Each solidarity production group has 10-15 families. These groups have correctly implemented the KPRP's policies in rescuing our people from the danger of famine.

In the past nearly 7 years, agriculture as well as other fields of the PRK were restored step by step from a difficult stage through the ordinary means combined with the noble spiritual and material assistance from various fraternal socialist countries, particularly from our Vietnamese and Soviet friends. Concurrently, we have sent our students to study agricultural science and technique abroad in order to serve us in agriculture in the future. This is evidence that the party and the state have paid attention to our national economy which is particularly based on agriculture. This conforms with the following statement by Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin: We have adopted agriculture as the core of the national economy. The industrial field cannot perform well unless we have enough raw materials from agricultural production.

Based on the principle that they are the owners of the rice fields and farmlands and they are really responsible for the future of their nation and country, our peasants from more than 100,000 solidarity groups have made every effort to develop and strengthen the quality and quantity of their products. They have increased the agricultural production seasons every year. Furthermore, they have striven to increase yield by implementing intensive rice planting in conformity with agricultural science and technique. This aims at ensuring enough foodstuffs for our people and our army who are ready to fight the enemy in defense of our territory. Moreover, our people have worked hard to increase their agricultural production for export. Our peasants have also cleared and claimed new lands to increase the area of land under crops.

In 1984, the area of rice fields doubled that of 1979. Along with rice, our peasants have grown subsidiary and industrial crops on hundreds of thousands hectares of land. In addition to this, our peasants have restored coconut, pepper, cotton and tea plantations. Furthermore, our people have vigorously developed the field of animal husbandry. They have paid attention to raising oxen, buffalo, pigs, chickens, ducks, and fish to ensure their daily foodstuffs. Our peasants have also increased the number of draft animals which have facilitated the agricultural work. Moreover, cattle have provided natural fertilizer for our peasants to improve the quality of their rice fields and farmlands. Some of these animals have been exported abroad. Money fields and farmlands. Some of these animals have been exported abroad. Money obtained from this export has been used to buy medicines and agricultural instruments. Moreover, our people have made every effort to care for and treat their animals. They have used traditional and modern medicines to treat their cattles. Due to this, the occurrence of animal diseases has been steadily decreased. In the past more than 6 years, there have been 1.4 million head of oxen and cows, that is, more than 700,000 head more than in 1979; more than 600,000 head of buffalo, more than 200,000 more than in 1979; more than 1 million head of pigs, more than 958,000 more than in 1979; and more than 7 million chickens and ducks, more than 6 million more than in 1979.

Our people have paid strong attention to fishery and the protection of our river and sea resources. In the 1984-85 fishing season, the fishing solidarity groups caught 65,000 metric tons of fish, that is, more than 45,000 metric tons more than in 1980. From this, our fishermen produced a lot of dried, smoked, and fermented fish as well as fish sauce for consumption during the periods of fish production and rice planting season. In addition to this, our fishermen have increased fish farming for the needs of our people. At present, our fishermen raised more than 2,400 metric tons of all types of fish, or 120 percent of the plan.

Concurrently, forestry has also developed. Forests are also our important natural resource after rice and rubber. In addition to this, forests help bring rains. Timber has been used for construction and exported abroad. Our people have enthusiastically participated in the preservation of our forests and the development of forestation. Svay Rieng Province has carried out well the process of forestation. Kompong Thom and Stung Treng Provinces have preserved their forests well. In 1985, our people will produce 90,000 cubic meters of timber, that is, more than 89,000 cubic meters more than in 1979.

They produce more than 10,000 cubic meters of sawn log and more than 44,000 cubic meters of fire wood, that is, more than 32,000 cubic meters more than in 1979. More than 2,500 metric tons of charcoal were produced, that is, more than 2,300 metric tons more than in 1979. More than 914,000 bamboo trees were produced. More than 437,000 young trees were planted. A total of more than 12,000 cubic meters of forest products were exported abroad. Our people have striven to plant 500,000 young trees such as eucalyptus, teak, and dipterocarpus alatus.

Water is an important factor in agricultural production. Therefore, our people have repaired important hydraulic buildings such as the Baray and Prek Rundeng dams in Kompong Cham Province, the Prek Samroang pumping station in Kandal Province, and creeks in Kandieng District, Pursat Province. Many other pumping stations were built in Takeo, Kompong Cham, and Prey Veng Provinces and in Phnom Penh.

Rubber plantations have produced rubber for export in order to obtain foreign currency for the development of our national economy. Rubber plantations have developed well. The cadres and workers at all rubber plantations have made every effort to restore this field with satisfactory results. During the first 8 months of 1985, workers have worked on more than 25,000 hectares of rubber plantations, or 93 percent of the plan and more than 20,000 hectares more than in 1980. Our workers produced more than 9,900 metric tons of dried rubber, that is more than 8,600 metric tons more than in 1980. They produced more than 42,000 liters of liquid rubber, that is more than 35,000 liters more than in 1980. Furthermore, our workers have striven to plant many more hectares of young rubber trees.

The successes scored by our peasants in agriculture in the past more than 6 years have great significance in light of the great destruction and serious crimes inflicted by the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan traitorous and genocidal clique. These victories are due to the correct leadership of our KPRP. Moreover, our people and peasants have closely united in solidarity production groups. They have raised their patriotic spirit and international solidarity spirit. They have striven hard to overcome all obstacles with the wholehearted assistance and support of the fraternal Vietnamese party, government, army, and people as well as with the cooperation of Laos, the Soviet Union, various fraternal socialist countries, and all friends near and far throughout the world.

Through their pride in the successes they have scored, our peasants are determined to enthusiastically increase their agricultural productions. They pledge to implement new intensive rice planting techniques to increase the planting seasons and transform the practice of agriculture from backwardness to modernity with scientific techniques aimed at scoring many achievements to mark the fifth party congress.

CSO: 4212/5

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

'ARTICLE' ARMY DESCRIBED RECRUITMENT IN COMMUNE

BK280610 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 27 Sep 85

["Article" by station correspondent (Sopha): "Why Krang Leav Commune Is Doing Well in Recruiting Soldiers"]

[Text] In Krang Leav commune, a notable event is the movement of our youths to serve in the Army. In 1985, everyone in Krang Leav commune has agreed that, to wipe out enemies from localities, the main factor is willingness to sacrifice everything and contribute to building up the Armed Forces. However, although recruitment in Krang Leav commune has achieved good results recently, this activity still encounters some difficulties because cadres among state authorities have not shown themselves as models to the people. Furthermore, the implementation of policies concerning the rear battlefield has not been carried out well on a permanent basis. However, since the end of 1984, the recruitment of soldiers in Krang Leav commune has not encountered any of the problems seen in the past. It has been going very smoothly because at every stage of the recruitment, based on circulars from higher levels, the commune has been constantly using the services of the Council for Recruiting Soldiers, which includes every competent service and has dispatched units to various localities to cooperate with local committees in grasping their difficulties and to cooperate with local committees in grasping their difficulties and to take propaganda and educational measures to resolve these problems in a timely manner.

In schools, educational staff are also members of the Council for Recruiting Soldiers. They are in charge of carrying out direct propaganda among pupils and students. Due to their tireless efforts and activities, the council has made the people, in particular youths, understand their duty to defend the fatherland and realize that this is a major and sacred task. The council has also promoted anger and hatred among the people against the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan genocidal clique and other reactionary Cambodians who have been carrying out barbarous, criminal activities against our people. The council also clearly distinguishes who are friends and who are enemies. Therefore, the recruitment of soldiers in Krang Leav commune is vigorous and enthusiastic. The people know that they have to be separated from parents, wives, and children and volunteer to serve in the Army because they clearly understand that this is the primary task and the most honorable one assigned by the beloved nation and fatherland.

Based on the emulation movement in each village, the recruitment of soldiers is progressing quickly. For example Sre Veal and Thmei villages have fulfilled the recruitment plan within the time limit and exceeded the plan by 100 percent. Furthermore, Comrade (Im Noem) and Comrade (Thong Pheak), chairmen of the villages' associations, have shown themselves as models by being the first to let their sons serve in the Army. (Say Vorn), 64 years old, chairman of the solidarity group, has persuaded two sons in succession to serve in the Army. He has a daughter who is still at school. When she reaches military age in 1986, he says he will persuade her to join the service. Young (Koch Yun), (Un San), and [name indistinct], all pupils finishing their primary-level education, also courageously and valiantly volunteer to serve in the Army. An instructive example is the cases in which sons and husbands are willing to join the service but parents, wives, and children object or in which parents, wives, and children agree but the potential recruits refuse to join. In these cases, the council appeals directly to the family and asks its members to tell the council sincerely of their requirements. The council then pledges to provide immediate assistance. This gives everyone in the family peace of mind, and the persons concerned can join the Army. So, recruitment in Krang Leav commune is no problem. Along with propaganda, our council is implementing the policies concerning the rear battlefield as far as combatants' families are concerned.

In 1985, after receiving requests from people in (Snoeng Veng) village, the village head, in cooperation with the council and the people, built a house for (Tong Che) so that he can join the Army. The head of Sre Veal village decided to provide 8 thang [volume measure equivalent to about 1 bushel] of common paddy to the family of (? Ngin phang), which is facing difficulties. The family is also promised more paddy until the harvest season.

There are problems that the council for recruitment of soldiers in Krang Leav commune has resolved in a timely manner. Since the beginning of this year, 8 houses have been built for combatants' families and more than 200 thang of paddy--taken from the commune association--have been provided to combatants' families.

Another noteworthy case is administration. After the village council has sent recruits to the commune office, we pay attention to taking care of and educating them. This includes their education, food supplies, living quarters, and health. There are even artistic programs for relaxation. When the recruits are leaving their localities, send-off ceremonies are organized and awards given out. Souvenirs in the form of handkerchiefs are given to the recruits by the people and youth associations in a solemn and happy atmosphere. This makes those leaving realize even more clearly the honor of joining the Army and pledge to fulfill their tasks. These measures and experiences are becoming traditional in Krang Leav commune in recruiting soldiers. This is why, at the meeting to sum up the past dry-season activities and to set up the 1985 tasks, Krang Leav commune was allowed by the meeting to report on its measures, and a number of experiences in recruiting soldiers, which have led to good results, was praised by the meeting.

To confirm further the targets and measures to be implemented during future recruitment programs, Comrade (Thong Chi), chairman of the people's revolutionary committee in Krang Leav commune and chairman of commune's council for recruiting soldiers, affirms to us:

[Begin (Thong Chi) recording] To ensure the fulfillment of targets set by higher levels for future recruitment programs, our commune is paying attention to its local people's (?voice). The commune is preparing another batch of youths for the next recruitment session. We have been constantly implementing policies to assist combatants' families in their daily life and labor in solidarity production groups. From now on, our commune will set a limit on the number of years of labor for families whose members are serving in the Army. We are also setting apart some land for combatants' families to practice family economy. We are also paying attention to their welfare. In short, the commune is striving to ensure that combatants' families enjoy a standard of living higher than that of an average family in the commune. [end recording]

CSO: 4212/5

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

ARMY PAPER ON IMPROVING LIVELIHOOD FOR SOLDIERS

BK291012 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 28 Sep 85

[KANGTOAP PADEVOAT Editorial: "Pay Particular Attention to Improving Living Conditions for Cadres and Combatants"]

[Text] The work to improve and ensure better living conditions for cadres and combatants is not only to solve the problem of providing facilities, food, and health care, but it also significantly contributes to powerfully strengthening and enhancing combat capabilities and combat readiness in order to expand victories by our KPRAF.

In the past, in all units in the rear, along the border, and in highlands, flatlands, lowlands, mountains, islands, and the seas, cadres, combatants, and commanders could creatively solve all kinds of problems involving production, food, and health care for soldiers in order to encourage them to surmount all difficulties, expand victories, and fulfill all tasks assigned them by the superiors. Certainly, the big, resounding victories won last dry season are thanks to the fact that our KPRAF could successfully ensure better living conditions and health care for cadres and combatants.

Although it is true that our Cambodian revolution still has to face many more difficulties in economic, scientific, and social fields due to the serious destruction caused by the genocidal Pol Pot regime, our cadres, party members, core groups, youth federation's branches, and particularly chiefs of Army units have enhanced their sense of responsibility and stimulated combatants to take part in the five-point emulation movement set forth by the Defense Ministry. As a matter of fact, even the regular and regional units positioned in the western part of our fatherland and many other units which are combating the enemies have made brilliant feats both in combating the enemies and in improving living conditions for cadres and combatants.

However, a small number of units in charge of defense and training still face difficulties regarding living conditions due to lack of sense of mastery and initiative in improving their own living conditions. They depend on rations and supplies from the upper echelons and keep claiming shortages of land, tools, seeds, and spare time for launching production. Moreover, they use supplies inappropriately, lack a sense of thrift, and are unable to cope with corruption in their respective units.

To improve and ensure good care for the living conditions of soldiers, first of all, the party committees at all levels and chiefs of army units must be responsible for rations and supplies and make sure that rations and supplies provided by the upper echelons reach the hands of cadres and combatants in time. They must know how to coordinate the three fundamental sources of supply--distribution from the upper echelons, production units, and on-the-spot purchase of supply, particularly regarding meat and vegetables. Cadres of all sectors and at all levels must stimulate combatants to increase crop production and raise more animals for use in improving living conditions of soldiers.

The work to ensure better living conditions involves not only the leading echelons or chiefs of units, but it is also a responsibility of all party members, core groups, and youth associations. They should participate in carrying out this work. Responsible persons must regularly check incoming and outgoing supplies in warehouses and the living conditions of combatants. They must take measures to check within time any misuse of combatants' rations. They must see to it that food supply is sufficient for a year's consumption by units in areas where supply transportation is impossible in the rainy season.

To ensure better living conditions for combatants, cadres must know how to encourage their subordinates to join in sports and artistic activities, read newspapers, and listen to radio. By so doing, cadres and combatants in all units will create a new, brilliant life. This will contribute to enhancing the will to fight and win more victories in carrying out the three-revolution movement to welcome the fifth party congress.

CSO: 4212/5

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 23-29 SEPTEMBER

BK300753 [Editorial report] Cambodian media monitored by Bangkok Bureau carried the following reports on agricultural developments during the reporting period 23-29 September:

Pursat Province: Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 23 September reports that by the last weeks of August peasants in the province had transplanted almost 5,000 hectares of rice.

Kompong Chhnang Province: The radio at 1300 GMT on 23 September says that by September peasants in Toek Phos District had planted more than 4,000 hectares of rice, including 1,250 hectares of late rice, 1,950 hectares of middle rice, and 840 hectares of early rice, and more than 300 hectares of subsidiary crops. The reports adds that the local agricultural service also provided 85 metric tons of chemical fertilizers to peasants. In another report broadcast at 0430 GMT on 24 September the radio says that by 30 August peasants in the province had planted more than 6,400 hectares of intensive rice.

Kandal Province: At 1300 GMT on 24 September the radio broadcast a report saying that peasants in Kien Svay District are currently working to plant rice on 2,453 hectares planned for this season; the local agricultural service in the meantime has provided 143 metric tons of chemical fertilizers, 207 kg of rat poison, and 300 liters of insecticides to peasants. The reports adds that 350 hectares of floating rice have been harvested. According to Phnom Penh SPK in French at 1120 GMT on 24 September, during a period of 10 days ending 20 September, peasants in Ponhea Loe District planted 66 hectares of IR-36 rice and tilled 3,250 hectares of land for the coming dry season planting. It adds that the local agricultural service had provided 240 metric tons of rice seeds and some chemical fertilizer, rat poison, and insecticide to peasants. In another report in French transmitted at 0404 GMT on 27 September SPK says that during the first 2 weeks of this month peasants in the province transplanted more than 4,300 hectares of rice and adds that since the beginning of this rainy season 32,000 hectares of rice have been planted, representing 50 percent of the plan.

Takeo Province: At 1055 GMT on 24 September SPK in English reports that by early this month peasants in Tram Kak District had planted 15,000 hectares of rice. According to the radio at 1300 GMT on 28 September, by the end of August nearly 7,000 hectares of land in Samraong District had been tilled, more than 1,700 hectares of rice sown, and nearly 6,000 hectares of rice transplanted by peasants.

Kompong Thom Province: At 1055 GMT on 24 September SPK in English reports that by the end of August peasants in Baray District had put 26,000 hectares under rice; the local veterinary service also vaccinated 700 head of cattle and buffalo against epizootic diseases. The report adds that by the end of July, peasants in Santuk District had put 8,410 hectares under rice, including 4,690 hectares of floating rice, 875 hectares of medium-term rice, and 1,750 hectares of long-term rice.

Svay Rieng Province: SPK in English transmits a report at 1100 GMT on 25 September saying that despite a long spell of drought, peasants in the province have made great efforts to plant more rice to fulfill the target of 141,000 hectares of rice for this monsoon cropping. The report adds that in the last 2 weeks peasants in the province had put 2,000 hectares under rice with 320 metric tons of rice seeds supplied by the local agricultural service. In another report in English transmitted at 1105 GMT on 29 September, SPK says that by mid-September, despite drought, peasants in Svay Teap District had planted 12,390 hectares of rice out of the 20,500 hectares planned for this season.

Prey Veng Province: According to a report in English transmitted by SPK at 1111 GMT on 26 September, by the end of August peasants in the province, despite a 2-month drought, had planted 71 percent of 23,000 hectares of rice planned for this season; 2,700 hectares of corn and 1,200 hectares of sesame had also been planted.

Kompong Speu Province: At 1300 GMT on 26 September, the radio reports that in Thpong District, between the beginning of this rainy season and mid-September, peasants tilled 4,200 hectares of land, sown nearly 800 hectares of rice, and transplanted nearly 4,000 hectares of various types of rice. In another report broadcast at 0430 GMT on 29 September, the radio says that from the beginning of the season to the 2d week of September peasants in the province transplanted more than 66 percent of rice planned for the season with Samraong Tong District completing 11,000 hectares, Kong Pisei District 7,000 hectares, Baset District 12,500 hectares, Phnum Sruoch District more than 6,000 hectares, and Thpong District more than 3,000 hectares; 723 hectares of rice had also been harvested. At 1300 GMT on 29 September the radio reports that by mid-September, peasants in Udong District had transplanted almost 9,000 hectares of rice, or 77 percent of the plan. Peasants had also planted more than 800 hectares of industrial and subsidiary crops and collected 3,000 metric tons of natural fertilizers, adds the report.

Kampot Province: According to SPK in French at 0404 GMT on 27 September, by 20 July peasants in the province had fulfilled 100 percent of their plan to sell paddy to the state with Chhuk District selling 2,848 metric tons of the planned 2,600 metric tons. The report adds that peasants plan to sell another 1,000 metric tons to the state and by 30 July, more than 130 metric tons were already sold. In another report in English transmitted at 1119 GMT on 27 September SPK says that by the end of August peasants in Angkor Chey District had fulfilled their plans of selling 1,320 metric tons of surplus rice to the state. At 1105 GMT on 29 September SPK in English reports that by July the provincial trade service had supplied the peasants with 160 metric tons of chemical fertilizers. The report adds that peasants in Chhuk District had also sold 2,848 metric tons of surplus rice to the state.

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

RECENT KPRAF ACTIVITIES--Advancing toward scoring victories to welcome the party's fifth national congress in the near future, various units in Siem Reap Province, in cooperation with units of the Vietnamese volunteer army, launched operations to sweep the enemies in the locality and scored brilliant results. Last week, firmly grasping the enemies' movements and with good mass agitation work, during a period of 3 days various units in Siem Reap Province, in close cooperation with a small unit of the Vietnamese volunteer army, launched successive operations against the enemies at important places. In 19 operations our combatants put out of action more than 100 enemy soldiers, including 24 killed and 18 taken prisoner; our people also persuaded 69 misled persons to return to the fold. Recently, armed forces in Kompong Thom Province, in cooperation with militiamen and the Vietnamese volunteer army, ambushed a group of enemy soldiers 20 km northeast of Kompong Thom. We killed four of these soldiers on the spot, including a Sereika officer, and seized a pistol, a boat, and some military materiel. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 1 Oct 85 BK]

LOCAL MILITARY ACTIVITIES--In August, security forces and people in Kompong Chhnang Province, in close cooperation with local militiamen and the Vietnamese volunteer army, launched 379 operations against the enemies outside their area, killing 30 enemy soldiers, wounding another 46, and taking 1 prisoner. They also seized seven weapons and a large quantity of military materiel. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 22 Sep 85 BK]

MISLED PERSONS RETURN--34 misled persons turned themselves in to revolutionary authorities in Kompong Speu Province during the 3d quarter of this year thanks to the movement to persuade misled persons to return to the fold launched by authorities and people in the province. These 34 returnees described how they were misled by enemy propaganda and led a difficult life during their stay with the enemy. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 27 Sep 85 BK]

RED CROSS AID--Kompong Thom Province's Red Cross distributed relief aid to people in drought-hit areas in September. The aid included rice, blankets, mosquito nets, cloth, and so on. Some 85 metric tons of rice were donated to the Cambodian Red Cross. Ten metric tons of this rice were distributed to inhabitants of Santuk District, 15 metric tons to Stoung District, and 15 metric tons to the provincial seat. The rest was to be distributed to people in Sandan and Kompong Svay Districts. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 27 Sep 85 BK]

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

PHAM HUNG SPEECH AT SECURITY FORCES MEETING

BK011615 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 20 Aug 85 p 2

[Speech by Pham Hung, CPV Central Committee Political Bureau member and SRV interior minister, at 19 August Hanoi meeting marking the 40th founding anniversary of the Vietnamese People's Public Security Forces]

[Text] Dear presidium,

Respected and beloved Comrade General Secretary Le Duan,

Respected and beloved Comrade Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong,

Respected and beloved members of the Political Bureau and Secretariat of the party Central Committee,

Dear distinguished guests,

Dear comrades:

Amid the vibrant atmosphere of the days when the August revolution is being commemorated, our entire Army and people today celebrate with boundless enthusiasm and pride the 40th founding anniversary of the Vietnamese People's Public Security Forces.

We are very honored and pleased to welcome to this grand ceremony Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the party Central Committee; Comrade Pham Van Dong, chairman of the Council of Ministers; and other comrades of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and Secretariat.

We:

Heartily welcome the delegation of the Republic of Cuba's Interior Ministry led by Comrade Commander of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes Menendez, Political Bureau member, vice president of the State Council, vice president of the Council of Ministers, and minister of the interior;

Heartily welcome the delegation of the Soviet Committee for State Security led by Comrade Colonel General Vladimir Petrovich Pirozhkov, deputy chairman of the committee;

Heartily welcome the delegation of the Soviet Internal Affairs Ministry led by Comrade Deputy Minister Lieutenant General Nikolay Ivanovich Demodov;

Heartily welcome the delegation of the Lao Interior Ministry led by Comrade General Sisavat Keobounphan, member of the party Central Committee Secretariat and minister of the interior; and

Heartily welcome the delegation of the PRK Ministry of the Interior led by Comrade Khang Sarin, member of the party Central Committee Secretariat and minister of the interior.

Comrades, your presence at this commemorative ceremony brings fraternal solidarity and friendship as well as comprehensive cooperation in the spirit of socialist internationalism to our parties, states, peoples, and people's public security forces.

We warmly welcome the presence at this ceremony of party and state leaders, representatives of the Ministry of National Defense, representatives of the various sectors and mass organizations at the central level and in Hanoi, heroes of the People's Armed Forces, labor heroes, and those comrades with meritorious services in developing the People's Public Security Forces who have either retired or been given other assignments.

On behalf of all the cadres and combatants of the People's Public Security Forces nationwide, we would like to express our profound gratitude for your presence here as well as for your great solicitude and encouragement for the Vietnamese People's Public Security Forces.

On the occasion of the 40th founding anniversary of the Vietnamese People's Public Security Forces, the party and state have awarded citations for meritorious service to and bestowed for the 2d time the Gold Star Order on the entire People's Public Security Forces and conferred orders and medals of various classes on localities, units, cadres, and combatants of the security force in recognition of their outstanding achievements in safeguarding the fatherland's security. This is not only the highest reward for the People's Public Security Forces but also the common pride of the People's Armed Forces and the people of all nationalities throughout the country, who have recorded outstanding exploits in the undertaking to safeguard national security and maintain social order.

At this moment of glory, we remember with deep feeling and immense gratitude boundlessly respected and beloved Uncle Ho, who always devoted himself to educating, training, and forging the Vietnamese People's Public Security Forces.

We remember forever the fallen heroes of the People's Public Security Forces and other comrades and compatriots who have valiantly sacrificed their lives

for independence and freedom, socialism, the fatherland's security, the people's happiness, and lofty internationalist duty. We express our profound gratitude and deep sentiments to families of fallen heroes of the public security forces, to revolutionary families, and to disabled soldiers who have made great sacrifices and contributions to the cause of national liberation, socialist construction, and national defense.

We sincerely thank the CPSU and the Soviet Government and people, headed by esteemed Comrade M.S. Gorbachev; we thank the Soviet security and interior [nooi] vu]] forces for their warm, great, and effective assistance to our people and our public security forces. The recent, high-level talks between the delegation of our party and state led by esteemed Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the CPV, and that of the Soviet party and state headed by esteemed Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, have further strengthened and developed the friendship and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

We sincerely thank the parties, governments, peoples, and public security forces of fraternal Laos and the PRK, who have strengthened their special relations of friendship with the Vietnamese people and their public security forces and who have fought side by side with them to defeat their common enemies on the same battlefield.

We sincerely thank the parties, governments, peoples, and security and interior forces of heroic Cuba and other fraternal socialist countries for their great and precious support and assistance for our people.

Dear comrades,

A special feature of our country's revolution is that it has had to cope with many large, strong enemies and that, on several occasions, it has had to face many enemies at the same time. All these enemies have sought to sabotage and destroy our party before anything else. For this reason, immediately after it was founded, our party raised the issue of protecting itself as an extremely important task of party members and the revolutionary masses to struggle against informants, spies, A.B. elements [not further identified], the Trotskyists... who tried to infiltrate the party to sabotage it from the inside. In accordance with each period of the development of the revolution, our party organized red self-defense units, worker-peasant self-defense units, traitors-elimination honor units, and Viet Minh reconnaissance units to perform the task of protecting the party's leading cadres and organs and safeguarding the masses' meetings and conferences. From these forerunner forces, under the glorious CPV's leadership and with the concern, training, and guidance of venerated and beloved President Ho Chi Minh, the public security organization took shape even during the period of clandestine activities. Forged over the course of the nation's great revolutionary struggle, the Vietnamese People's Public Security Forces have matured step by step and have recorded glorious exploits. In the war for national liberation and the war for national defense, the Vietnamese People's Public Security Forces have, along with our entire Army and people, fought and defeated the professional intelligence and espionage forces of the Japanese fascists, the French colonialists, the U.S. imperialists, and the Chinese expansionists-hegemonists,

thereby firmly defending the fatherland's security and fulfilling their internationalist obligations. With their maturity and strength, the People's Public Security Forces have now become an important armed force of the party and state; a key assault force on the front for national defense and long maintenance of social order and security; and a force that is ready to make sacrifices for the cause of national independence, freedom, and socialism, that defends our people's revolutionary gains, and that contributes to fulfilling the two strategic tasks of socialist construction and defense of the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

After the success of the August revolution, the nascent People's Public Security Forces had to cope with many cruel and cunning enemies. Under the party's clear-sighted leadership and relying on the people's strength, the Vietnamese People's Public Security Forces overcame extremely serious trials. With resourcefulness and courage, they promptly suppressed Chiang Kai-shek's secret service agents and French secret police and spies who colluded with various reactionary and lackey political parties and factions, destroying their hideouts where they committed crimes and killed people. The Vietnamese People's Public Security Forces successfully protected our young revolutionary administration, smashing all schemes to commit provocations, make trouble, and foment rebellions in an attempt to overthrow our government in Hanoi. During those difficult hours, right in the heart of Saigon City and other southern urban centers, the forces of the National Self-Defense Office (later known as the Nam Bo Public Security Force), together with assault public security, commando, and ranger units, fought staunchly from the beginning, made courageous sacrifices, and duly punished the leaders of the French colonialists' espionage and secret police services and the Vietnamese traitors serving as their capable lackeys, thereby stopping step by step the attacks of the French colonial army.

During our people's war of resistance against the French colonialists, the People's Public Security Forces--under the clear-sighted leadership of the CPV and with the close coordination of the VPA, the militia and self-defense forces, and the people throughout the country--have bravely and wisely fought against the enemy, discovered and eliminated many espionage organizations, and captured many spy rings and commando groups of the French colonialists, thereby firmly defending the rear and revolutionary bases. Staying close to the people, officers and combatants of the security forces deeply infiltrated the enemy's controlled areas, built revolutionary bases, wiped out dishonest people and French puppets, established people's security groups made up of five or ten families each, and effectively assisted the people's revolutionary movement in the cities and areas temporarily under French control. The People's Public Security Forces helped in defending military bases and protecting military campaigns, especially the Dien Bien Phu campaign, thereby contributing to completely liberating the north and strengthening its socialist construction, while building the north into the firm and vast rear for the liberation of south Vietnam and the unification of the fatherland.

In the process of socialist transformation and construction in the north, the People's Public Security Forces have, together with the people, striven to defend various economic, defense, and cultural bases and to protect socialist

revolutionary achievements. Along with struggling to foil the enemy's schemes to force the people to evacuate to the south, the People's Public Security Forces eliminated tens of thousands of bandits in the northeastern and northwestern parts of Vietnam, thereby maintaining security at the fatherland's border areas and promptly discovering and wiping out many espionage organizations established by the French colonialists and U.S. imperialists. In the struggle against the U.S. imperialists' air and naval war of destruction in the north, the People's Public Security Forces bravely and promptly suppressed espionage and reactionary groups as well as other criminals, thereby contributing to minimizing the damage caused by the enemy's air war of destruction and maintaining security and order even at the fiercest battle areas. Along with wiping out espionage and reactionary groups in the north, the People's Public Security Forces also captured spy and commando groups armed with modern weapons and equipment, thereby smashing the U.S. imperialists' plan to send spies and commandos to the north to make contact with local reactionaries and foiling their scheme to "oppose communism in communist controlled areas" in order to expand their war of aggression to the north. However, the socialist north stood firmly and fulfilled its duty and its role as a revolutionary base for the whole country, while effectively assisting the big frontline in the south. Under the uniform leadership of the CPV Central Committee and great President Ho Chi Minh, the north and the south, with two different strategic tasks, have shared a common goal of defending the north, liberating the south, and unifying the fatherland.

In the south, on various battlefields, in the movement of the people's general uprising at localities and the three strategic regions, and using the 3-prong attack tactic, the People's Public Security Forces, together with revolutionary people, bravely and wisely liberated the people from the concentrated areas, new life villages, and strategic hamlets set up by the enemy to discourage the revolutionary impetus and to eliminate revolutionary mass organizations. Coping with the intelligence and espionage mechanism and other reactionary elements set up and directed by the U.S. intelligence agency, the public security force of the south, with bravery and creativity, fought and foiled the U.S. imperialists' very dangerous schemes for carrying out espionage and psychological warfare activities, which included various meticulous and cruel policies and acts such as "using the people in intelligence work", the "open arms" policy, the "Phoenix" campaign, and the trick to [word indistinct] patriotic cadres and people. Nothing was more bitter than facing the various policies of espionage conducted by the CIA. They suppressed, coerced, and cruelly killed the people. They sowed division in villages and families, causing distrust between husband and wife and between parent and child! The public security force of the south has contributed to defending the party and the revolutionary movement and effectively assisting the people in their offensive and uprising. It has positively contributed, together with the people, to achieving victory in various regions, thereby completely liberating south Vietnam and unifying the nation.

Following the great spring 1975 victory, our nation again had to cope with new, extremely perfidious schemes of sabotage carried out by the expansionists and hegemonists acting hand in glove with the U.S. imperialists and other international reactionary forces. Once again, the People's Public Security

Forces--developing their role as a main assault force--joined the entire people and army throughout the country in smashing the schemes and acts of sabotage by reactionary elements to firmly safeguard national security and social order in normal times as well as during the two wars of aggression against our southwestern and northern borders.

We have carried out the reeducation of persons who formerly were members of the puppet army and administration and intelligence agents and spies of the U.S. imperialists; promptly discovered the various reactionary organizations; and captured domestic and foreign spies--typical of this is the recent case of espionage involving China and the Thai army intelligence service in the south--thus completely foiling their schemes to foment rebellions and subversion and positively contributing to the struggle against the enemy's multifaceted war of sabotage and to the cause of building socialism and defending the socialist fatherland.

Over the past 40 years, the People's Public Security Forces have, together with the entire army and people, ensured the absolute safety of the organizations serving as the nerve centers of the revolution, and of the leading comrades of the party and state in peacetime as well as during the fierce warring periods. The 40-year history of combat and maturity of the Vietnamese People's Public Security Forces shows that the great successes scored in safeguarding national security belong first of all to the glorious CPV, great President Ho Chi Minh, and the heroic Vietnamese people.

May I avail myself of this occasion to convey my warm greetings and gratitude to cadres and combatants of the people's army and the militia and self-defense forces, cadres of various sectors and mass organizations, and the compatriots of various nationalities throughout the country for having provided close assistance and coordination to the People's Public Security Forces in safeguarding national security, maintaining social order, and contributing to building socialism and defending our beloved fatherland. I warmly commend and praise all the cadres and combatants of the People's Public Security Forces, the guard forces of public organs, enterprises, villages, and city blocks, the people's guard forces, and the people's security teams for having overcome difficulties and fulfilled in a resourceful and valiant manner the tasks entrusted to them by the party and the people. I warmly commend and praise the compatriots who have rendered meritorious services in the undertaking to safeguard national security.

Dear comrades, the factor deciding all success of the Vietnamese People's Public Security Forces' undertaking to safeguard national security and social order is the party's leadership. Firmly grasping the revolutionary and scientific nature of Marxism-Leninism and applying it to the specific historical conditions of our country, the party has adopted correct and creative lines to successfully resolve the issues concerning strategies and tactics, revolutionary methods, and the art of warfare, thus creating the most magnificent and brilliant armed exploits in the history of our nation. In the struggle for the defense of national security, the party has, in each period and each stage of the revolutionary struggle, correctly resolved the issues concerning lines and principles, strategies and tactics, and methods and the art of

directing the struggle; triumphed over counterrevolutionary elements of all colors and other criminals; and brought the struggle from one great victory to another. In the initial stage of the transition period to socialism in our country, the party has closely linked the building of socialism with the defense of the socialist fatherland, security with national defense, security with economic construction, and security with social order; brought into full play the aggregate strength of the entire system of proletarian dictatorship with the mechanism of leadership by the party, mastery by the people, and management by the state; and actively taken an offensive position, closely combining defense with offense in a strategy to defeat the enemy.

In a semifeudal colonial country with a backward agricultural economy chiefly characterized by small production which has had to repeatedly conduct protracted and extremely difficult and fierce revolutionary wars while coping with many kinds of external and internal enemies, our party has built up the People's Public Security Forces as a revolutionary armed forces, a reliable instrument of the party, a sharp tool of the proletarian dictatorship state, and the beloved children and brothers of the people which wholeheartedly devote all-out efforts to serving the people and stand ready to make sacrifices for the defense of the fatherland's security.

Thoroughly grasping the party's strategic lines and tactics for each stage of the revolution, the People's Public Security Forces have applied them in work, combat, and in the development, organization, and deployment of forces. They have simultaneously carried out professional methods to fight the enemy, scoring glorious armed exploits during the national democratic revolution as well as in the undertaking to build socialism and defend the socialist fatherland.

The purity, stability, and strength of the People's Public Security Forces constitute a factor guaranteeing success for the undertaking to safeguard national security and maintain social order. Our party pointed out: "It is necessary to make the People's Public Security Forces pure, firm, and strong in all respects so they can truly serve as a sharp tool of the proletarian dictatorship state. To fulfill all tasks outstandingly they must be absolutely loyal to the fatherland, the party, and the people's have a standardized, modernized, and specialized force that is firm politically, efficient professionally, informed scientifically and technologically, and suitably equipped with specialized equipment; have a firm and strong semi-specialized force; and develop broad support among the masses.

Fully understanding the party's lines and scrupulously carrying out the instruction of Comrade General Secretary Le Duan—who said that "with their duty to protect the party, the public security forces must realize that the fate of the party lies in their hands.... Therefore, members of the public security forces are selected from among those who are most loyal to the party and who consider the party's survival as their own"—we have unceasingly cared for, groomed, and fostered the contingent of commanding cadres as well as the ranks of security combatants; and have constantly developed party, Ho Chi Minh communist youth, and women's organizations within the public security forces. We have launched many major movements aimed at making the People's

Public Security Forces pure, firm, and strong--including especially the current movement "to study, fully understand, and scrupulously implement respected and beloved Uncle Ho's six teachings" for the People's Public Security Forces.

Realities of the revolution in our country demonstrate that the struggle against counterrevolutionary elements and other criminals to safeguard national security and social order is an undertaking of the entire people. Respected and beloved Uncle Ho taught: "We will fail unless we rely on the people. The level of our success depends on the assistance given by the people; and total success will require total assistance." Deeply aware of the strength of the masses and the revolutionary nature of the heroic Vietnamese people, the People's Public Security Forces have relied on the working people's right to collective socialist mastery in the field of maintaining security and order to initiate a broad mass movement to safeguard national security. This is the strength of the entire people organized into a people's security network to protect important targets, major objectives, and key areas. Relying on the strength of the people's mastery, closely cooperating with all sectors, public organs, and mass organizations, and, particularly, coordinating in combat with the People's Army, the People's Public Security Forces must bring into full play their role as a main assault force; creatively apply economic, organizational, educational, administrative, and other measures; and flexibly combine the motivation of the masses with professional and scientific-technological methods to successfully struggle against counterrevolutionary elements and other criminal and to gradually eliminate the causes and conditions for the incidence of crimes. All this is a science and an art that our party has mastered to create an aggregate strength with which to safeguard national security and maintain social order over the past 40 years.

Our experiences also indicate that on the battle front to ensure security and order, the national strength is closely associated with the strength of the era. In the socialist revolution in our country as well as in the defense of the homeland and the maintenance of national security and social order, our party has always treasured international solidarity, the special relations of friendship among Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, and the comprehensive solidarity and cooperation with the Soviet Union, Cuba, and other socialist countries which have always supported and helped one another to oppose the common enemy in order to protect the revolutionary gains of each individual country, of the three Indochinese countries, and of the whole socialist community with the Soviet Union as a mainstay, thus contributing to the struggle for the noble objectives of the era which are peace, national independence, democracy, and socialism.

The above are the reasons for our victories which are at the same time the lessons of experience mainly derived from the realistic struggle in the past 40 years. We must continue to creatively apply and vigorously develop these lessons, and advance toward even greater victories.

Dear comrades,

The world situation is now very tense and complicated. The U.S.-LED belligerent forces are frenziedly engaging in the nuclear arms race, plotting to militarize the outer space, stubbornly deploying the mid-range missiles in Western Europe, and consolidating and establishing military alliance blocs with a view to changing the strategic military balance to their advantage. They are threatening the peace and security of nations, counterattacking the movements of national independence and democracy, and causing hot points in many areas: The Caribbean, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia. Their goals are to oppose the Soviet Union and the socialist community as a whole, and the three revolutionary currents and to sabotage world peace.

Together with the world people, the Vietnamese people vehemently condemn the adventurous and dangerous acts of the U.S. imperialists and international reactionaries, and resolutely struggle to check these acts. We warmly welcome and support Comrade Gorbachev's recent statements and the constructive proposals full of goodwill of the Soviet Union. We resolutely support the world people's struggle for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress.

Together with the Southeast Asian peoples, our people will remain highly vigilant in closely watching Washington's plot and plan to turn the Asia and Pacific area into a place of political and military confrontation against the socialist countries. We resolutely condemn the establishment of the U.S.-Japan-South Korea military alliance.

As the frontline states of the Southeast Asian hot area, the three Indochinese countries are being faced with the sinister scheme of the expansionists and hegemonists in collusion with the U.S. imperialists. Despite their defeats during the two wars of aggression against our country's border, the expansionists and hegemonists have not changed their counterrevolutionary strategy vis-a-vis Vietnam and the other Indochinese countries, but they have become even more hostile. In close collusion with the U.S. imperialists and other international reactionary forces, they have intensively conducted the multifaceted war of sabotage against our entire country and the land-grabbing war against our country's northern border in order to grab our land and expand their territory and whenever possible, they would wage a large-scale war against our country. They are stepping up their intelligence and spy activities in order to infiltrate into our ranks to investigate and collect intelligence information, conduct economic and ideological sabotage, cause disturbances, and stir up riots and subversive activities from within with the intention to incite internal upheaval while they attack us from outside. The multifaceted war of sabotage and the border land-grabbing war which fall in with the enemy's extremely counterrevolutionary strategy, are aimed at weakening us, inciting subversion, and annexing our country so as to carry out their expansionist and hegemonist plot in Southeast Asia. Their cruel plots and schemes against Vietnam are closely associated with their sabotage, land-grabbing, and subversive activities and those of their lackeys in Cambodia and Laos.

We assert our desire for normal relations between Vietnam and China, and the long-standing friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

The struggle between us and the enemy, and the struggle between the socialist and capitalist paths are intertwined. Fighting and defeating the enemy's multifaceted war of sabotage is a requirement of paramount importance which is closely related to the two strategic tasks. Thus, economic construction must be closely linked to economic production; the struggle against the enemy's economic sabotage must be closely linked to the struggle against encroachments on socialist property; building a new culture and shaping a new socialist man must be closely linked to the struggle against the enemy's ideological and cultural fronts. Intensive efforts must be made in internal organization building. Party and administrative organizations and mass organizations must be clean, strong, and stable in order to defend internal organizations firmly, to take positive precautionary measures, and to take the initiative in attacking the enemy. With socialist construction made the primary task, our entire party, people, and army must not relax their vigilance, not even for a minute; they must always strive to do their best to meet the requirements for national defense; and they must constantly seek to consolidate national defense and maintain national security and social order. In view of our country's current situation, military duties and security are very important tasks in firmly defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

On the task of protecting national security and maintaining social order and security, our party has pointed out: "Resolutely repress the counterrevolutionaries, opportunely smash all types of reactionaries' attempts to raise their heads, prevent and punish the enemy's sabotage acts in all domains, strengthen laws and discipline, and maintain social order and the people's security.

Thoroughly understanding the new situation and tasks and thoroughly grasping the party's line and, most recently, the eighth resolution of the CPV Central Committee on thorough elimination of the bureaucratic subsidy-based system of management and definite switching to socialist economic accounting and business transactions, let all cadres and combatants of the People's Public Security Forces continue to develop the fine nature and tradition of the force. Let them continue to step up the movement to study, and scrupulously implement, the six teachings of respected and beloved Uncle Ho; enhance their revolutionary ethics; sharpen their vigilance; raise their sense of responsibility, their fighting will, and their combat ability; constantly build the People's Public Security Force into an increasingly clean, strong, and stable one; fulfill their tasks as a key assault force in the struggle to defend national security and maintain social order; and make efficient contributions, along with our entire people, to successfully building socialism and firmly defending our beloved socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

Dear comrades:

Over the past 40 years of fighting while growing and maturing, the People's Public Security Forces have, along with our entire people and army, fought and defeated all enemy aggressors; foiled all strategic, intelligence, and espionage schemes of the enemy; and firmly defended our fatherland's security.

As Comrade Truong Chinh assessed, in his statement on behalf of the CPV Central Committee, the National Assembly, and the government on the occasion of the 35th founding anniversary of the People's Public Security Forces, the Vietnamese People's Public Security Forces, inheriting and developing the fine traditions of our people and the thoroughly revolutionary nature of the working class, have always remained absolutely loyal to the fatherland, the party, and the revolutionary administrations; have wholeheartedly served the people; have not shunned sacrifices and hardships; have achieved close unity; have worked devotedly; have fought valiantly and resourcefully; have set many brilliant examples of revolutionary heroism; and have accomplished all tasks with distinction. It has made worthy contributions, along with our entire people and army, to fighting and defeating the French colonialists, the U.S. imperialists, and the Chinese reactionaries and their lackeys, and to firmly defending the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the fatherland, and the socialist construction of our entire people.

Under the invincible banner of the glorious CPV, headed by the venerated and beloved Comrade General Secretary Le Duan, the Vietnamese People's Public Security Forces, developing its tradition in 40 years of fighting and maturing, pledge to overcome all difficulties and ordeals to fulfill with distinction all tasks under any circumstance.

Long live the glorious CPV, the organizer and leader of all victories of the Vietnamese revolution!

Long live the SRV!

Great President Ho Chi Minh will live forever in our cause!

Let all cadres and combatants of the People's Public Security Forces courageously advance!

CSO: 4209/20

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

NHAN DAN ARTICLE ON NEW INDOCHINESE INITIATIVES

BK011418 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 31 Aug 85 pp 2, 4

[Article by Thanh Tin: "Bound Together in a Firm and Shining Stance"]

[Text] Once again world opinion is focusing on the situation in the Indochinese peninsula. The recent conference of the Vietnamese, Lao, and Cambodian foreign ministers in Phnom Penh has made important decisions and taken diplomatic initiatives full of goodwill. All Vietnamese Army volunteers will be withdrawn from Cambodia by 1990 and the PRK Government is prepared to hold talks with various Cambodian opposition groups or individuals to discuss the realization of national reconciliation on the basis of the elimination of the genocidal Pol Pot clique as well as the general elections to be held following the total withdrawal of Vietnamese Army volunteers from Cambodia.

Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, acting on behalf of the three fraternal countries in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, recently had a frank and useful talk in Jakarta with Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, who represented the ASEAN countries.

The basis for the changes in the situation has been the strong position of the three fraternal countries in the Indochinese peninsula and the resounding and substantial victories of the Cambodian people in the recent dry season marked by the destruction of all 16 bases of the Cambodian reactionaries along the northern, western, and northwestern border areas. The Cambodian Armed Forces, which have grown markedly, are fighting side by side with the Vietnamese Army volunteers to firmly defend the border in the current rainy season, effectively checking the infiltration of the Cambodian reactionaries. A new feature of the military situation in Cambodia is that the reactionary forces have lost all their command posts, military depots, supply lines, infiltration bridgeheads, and even their makeshift "guest houses" built on the border to stage farcical lightning "credential presentation" ceremonies to deceive public opinion. A few reactionary groups which had managed to move deep inland before their border base were wiped out have had their resupply and retreat routes cut off. Confused and demoralized, they have been effectively surrounded and hunted down by the Cambodian people and Armed Forces. The proselytizing campaign launched by the Cambodian people with the participation of the families of those forced to fight for the Pol Pot clique has yielded tangible results. In the past 4 months, thousands of Pol Pot's soldiers have

come out of the forests and rejoined the people, bringing along their weapons and severing all ties with the cruel genocidal clique.

Another new feature of the situation in Cambodia is that the task of economic, cultural, and educational restoration and development has been carried out ever more effectively in the atmosphere of security that prevails throughout the country and with the wholehearted cooperation and assistance of all fraternal and friendly countries far and near. The 1986-90 5-year economic development plan is being urgently drafted to bring into full play the considerable potentials of agriculture, forestry, and fishery while building the necessary material bases for energy, power, communications, transportation, processing of agricultural products, and production of consumer goods, thereby further accelerating the steady revival of the Cambodian nation.

The expansionists-hegemonists and their followers have seen their dream shattered; all their sinister calculations have been upset by realities. The cruel Pol Pot clique, Beijing's main tool, has been unable to rear its head again and has become highly isolated before public opinion. Many West and North European governments, numerous nonaligned countries, and even the political circles in Indonesia and Malaysia have clearly stated that it is necessary to eliminate the criminal genocidal Pol Pot clique both militarily and politically.

The goodwill of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, based on their strong political, military, and diplomatic position, has become all the more shining.

We have clearly announced a deadline for the withdrawal of all Vietnamese voluntary forces from Cambodia: 1990. The period between now and 1990 is even shorter than that between 1979 and now. There is no more basis for the hostile forces to cook up the so-called "Vietnamization of Cambodia" and "permanent annexation of Cambodia by Vietnam." The PRK Government has been established through free, nationwide general elections and is firmly in control of all Cambodian territory in every respect. Yet, it is still prepared to meet with various Cambodian opposition groups or individuals to discuss the realization of national reconciliation on the basis of the elimination of the genocidal Pol Pot clique. This shows a very magnanimous attitude and a very lofty goodwill aimed at achieving national reconciliation and building Cambodia into a unified, peaceful, and prosperous country.

After 6 years of frenziedly opposing the peoples of the three Indochinese countries, the policy of confrontation and applying pressure pursued by imperialism and expansionism-hegemonism has gone. They have tried to realize their evil intention of dividing the Indochinese countries and of blockading, encircling, and bleeding them white. They have even attempted to overthrow the revolutionary power in these countries, expecting to see some signs of collapse and submission. However, the solidarity and cooperation among the three fraternal countries have been further consolidated; their political, military, and diplomatic positions have become stronger than ever before; and their economies have undergone fresh developments.

As the SRV is celebrating its 40th founding anniversary and the 10th anniversary of the liberation of South Vietnam and of national reunification, and as the LPDR will be marking the 10th anniversary of its total liberation and national unification late this year, the PRK is about to enter the 7th year of its era of genuine independence and freedom and to launch its new 5-year plan full of bright prospects. These are historic milestones marking the strong and steady development of the three Indochinese countries in the new period.

The contributions of fraternal Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia to the revolutionary situation in the Asian and Pacific region is a very useful and interesting subject matter of scientific study for strategists throughout the world. Socialism has a system of strong and reliable outposts in Southeast Asia. All sinister schemes of imperialism, expansionism, and all reactionary forces have suffered bitter failures in this burning region.

It is on this basis that the three fraternal countries on the Indochinese peninsula have demonstrated their shining goodwill to make the most active contributions to shaping a zone of independence, freedom, peace, cooperation, and stability in Southeast Asia in the interests of each country in the region and in the common interests of a new world in which the people of each country will be the master of their own destiny and the people in various regions unite and cooperate with one another to be the master of their own regions. The three Indochinese countries wish to live in peace and friendship with other countries in the region, especially with their neighbors, but they will resolutely oppose all acts of sabotage and aggression.

CSO: 4209/20

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

TRUONG CHINH SPEECH AT LENIN MONUMENT UNVEILING

BK021130 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 1 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

[Speech by Truong Chinh at 31 August Hanoi ceremony to inaugurate Lenin monument]

[Text] Respectfully to Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee, and other comrade leaders of the party and state of Vietnam;

Respectfully to Comrade V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, and head of the Soviet party-state delegation, and other comrade members of the delegation;

Respectfully to Comrade Ramiro Valdes, member of the Party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of State and Council of Ministers, minister of interior, and head of the party and state delegation of the Republic of Cuba, and other comrade members of the delegation;

Respectfully to comrades and friends in the diplomatic corps;

Dear comrades and friends:

Today we are extremely happy to gather here to hold this grand ceremony to inaugurate the monument to Vladimir Ilich Lenin, a leader of genius, the great teacher of the Soviet Union and of working and oppressed peoples the world over. Vladimir Ilich Lenin's shining doctrine has shown the way to victory for the Vietnamese working class and people as well as for the working class and peoples of all countries.

The Lenin monument is a valuable gift to our people from the party and state of the Soviet Union. On behalf of the CPV Central Committee and the state and people of Vietnam, I wish to express my deepest gratitude to the party, state, and fraternal people of the Soviet Union for this highly significant gift.

More than 2 months ago, the party and people of the Soviet Union held a solemn ceremony in Moscow to lay the symbolic cornerstone for the construction of a monument to Ho Chi Minh, a venerated and beloved leader of the Vietnamese people, an outstanding disciple of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, a great, close friend of the Soviet people.

The Lenin monument installed in our country's capital is a noble symbol of the stable, durable, militant solidarity between the CPV and the CPSU, of the great friendship between the peoples of Vietnam and the Soviet Union. It is an eloquent affirmation that the correct and creative policy of the CPV, founded and forged by President Ho Chi Minh, has, is, and will forever follow the revolutionary path charted by Lenin. It is an earnest aspiration of Vietnamese communists and the entire Vietnamese people to constantly remain close to the image of Lenin, and to express their respect and profound gratitude to him.

The installation of the Lenin monument in Hanoi and the monument to President Ho Chi Minh in Moscow will further tighten the bonds between the peoples of our two countries for the sake of peace and socialism, for the total victory of the noble ideals of Marxism-Leninism the world over.

Dear comrades and compatriots, V.I. Lenin was an outstanding successor to the revolutionary cause of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels and one who developed the Marxist doctrine comprehensively to a new pinnacle. Marxism-Leninism that led to wonderful successes in this century has become a guiding torch for the revolutionary actions and a spotlight showing the way for the liberation struggle of the working class and oppressed peoples the world over.

Like Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, V.I. Lenin was a gifted philosopher and outstanding pragmatist. He founded the Russian Bolshevik Communist Party, a new-type party of the working class, successfully led the Russian October revolution, and founded the world's first worker-peasant state, thus opening up a new era in mankind's history--the era of transition from capitalism to socialism on an international scale.

Under the banner of Leninism, the CPSU has led the Soviet people in scoring numerous great victories in the cause of building and defending the socialist fatherland, and in fighting fascism victoriously, thus saving mankind from the scourge of fascism and militarism and creating conditions for the birth of a series of socialist countries in Europe and Asia. It was the victory scored by the Soviet army over Japanese militarism that created objective, favorable conditions for the successful completion of the August revolution in Vietnam.

Under the invincible banner of Marxism-Leninism, over the past few decades the glorious CPSU has led the Soviet people in effecting extremely profound changes, building a developed socialist society, clearing the way to communism, turning Lenin's great fatherland into the most powerful socialist country--the pillar of world peace and revolution--striving to consolidate the socialist community, and contributing greatly to the strategic offensive stance of the three revolutionary currents of our time. All the great and profound changes in the world over the past few decades have been linked with the name of V.I. Lenin and his doctrine.

Dear comrades and compatriots, to the Vietnamese revolution, the meritorious deeds done by V.I. Lenin are very great. President Ho Chi Minh was the first Vietnamese to approach Marxism-Leninism. He soon found from Lenin's thoughts that the only way to achieve national liberation was to link national

liberation with class liberation and national independence with socialism. He was a symbol of the close link between the [Russian] October revolution and the Vietnamese revolution and between the national liberation movement in Vietnam and the proletarian revolutionary movement in the world. He asserted: "Following the path charted by great Lenin--the path of the October revolution--the Vietnamese people scored very great victories. This is the reason that the closeness of the Vietnamese people and their gratitude to the glorious October revolution, great Lenin, and the communist party, government, and people of the Soviet Union is very profound."

Since coming into being, the CPV, founded and trained by President Ho Chi Minh, has always been loyal to Marxism-Leninism. The party has creatively applied Marxism-Leninism to the specific conditions of our country to determine a correct line for the Vietnamese revolution, thereby leading it from one victory to another. It was the line of carrying out the people's national democratic revolution first, then advancing directly to the socialist revolution, bypassing the period of capitalist development. It was the line of combining national independence with socialism and patriotism with proletarian internationalism. Marxism-Leninism never stands still; it always fights, wins victory, and develops. In this fight, Marxism-Leninism is enriched daily with the versatile experiences of the struggle waged by the working class and people throughout the world for peace, national independence, democracy, and socialism. Naturally, the Vietnamese revolution has made a definite contribution to this great cause.

Over the past 55 years, under the CPV leadership, the Vietnamese revolution has made steady strides and achieved glorious victories. We successfully conducted the August revolution and founded the first worker-peasant state in Southeast Asia. Freed from the regime of colonial and feudal slavery, our people surged ahead with an extraordinarily strong spirit; successively vanquished the French colonialist and U.S. imperialist aggressors and international reactionaries; completely liberated the fatherland; achieved national reunification; and led the entire country to socialism.

In the current revolutionary stage, our party, creatively implementing Lenin's program, is building socialism in Vietnam, a country where small-scale production is prevalent. Through its fourth and fifth congresses, our party has improved its line of socialist revolution according to the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism and by consulting the rich experience of various fraternal parties and countries, especially the Soviet Union.

Our entire armed forces and people are successfully carrying out the two strategic tasks of building socialism and defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland. We are greatly elated at the consolidation of the militant alliance among the three countries of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia on the Indochinese peninsula. We are even more elated at the new qualitative development of the fraternal friendship, militant solidarity, and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. The recent official friendship visit to the Soviet Union by the SRV party and government delegation headed by Comrade General Secretary Le Duan has reaffirmed all this and established a new, important landmark in the development of the fine relations between the

two parties and the two peoples. On this occasion, I would like to express the Vietnamese people's boundless gratitude to the communist party, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, the government, and the fraternal people of the Soviet Union.

Dear comrades and compatriots, we strongly support the peace initiatives put forth by Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his statement on the Soviet decision to unilaterally halt the deployment of missiles and tests of nuclear weapons and call for the restriction of the arms race and implementation of international cooperation in the use of outer space for peace purposes. These important peace initiatives and other reasonable peace proposals of the Soviet Union manifest the noble sense of responsibility of this country toward the destiny of mankind and life on our planet.

Dear comrades and compatriots, the inauguration of the Lenin monument in Hanoi on the occasion of the SRV's 40th national day constitutes an important event in the political life of our people. On behalf of the CPV Central Committee and the SRV National Assembly, Council of State, and Council of Ministers, I heartily thank Comrade V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and head of the Soviet party and state delegation, and all members of the delegation, for attending the celebration of the SRV's 40th national day and the solemn inauguration of great V.I. Lenin's monument.

My hearty thanks to all party and state delegations from various fraternal countries in the socialist community, which are present at this solemn ceremony.

My hearty thanks to all comrades and friends in the diplomatic corps and to all international guests.

My hearty thanks to all my comrades and compatriots.

Long live great Lenin!

Great President Ho Chi Minh lives forever in our revolutionary undertaking!

Long live the fraternal friendship, militant solidarity, and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union!

CSO: 4209/20

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

BRIEFS

INDONESIA'S MURDANI GREETED--Hanoi VNA 4 Oct--General Van Tien Dung, minister of national defence of the SRV has sent his warm greetings to General I.B. Murdani, commander-in-chief of the armed forces of the Republic of Indonesia, on the 40th anniversary of the Indonesian armed forces (Oct 5). Van Tien Dung said in his message "We rejoice at the fine development of the relationship between the governments and peoples of Vietnam and Indonesia. Your visit to Vietnam in 1984 and the visit to Indonesia in the spring of this year by a Vietnamese military delegation led by myself have opened a new period in the friendly relations between the armies of the two countries. "I believe that the friendship and cooperation will consolidate and develop satisfactory with each passing day [sentence as received]. "May the Indonesian armed forces score new successes in their task of national defence and development." [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1521 GMT 4 Oct 85 OW]

UN ADDRESSED ON CAMBODIA--Hanoi VNA 3 Oct--"We support any effort aimed at a political settlement of the confrontation which has emerged in Southeast Asia and, in particular, around Kampuchea," said Peter Varkonyi, Hungarian foreign minister, in his address on Oct 1st at the general debate of the 40th UN General Assembly. The Hungarian foreign minister continued: "Southeast Asia continues to be a neuralgic point of the international situation. We believe that elimination of tension and strengthening of security and stability in the region would serve the interests of all the peoples concerned and would have a favorable influence on the efforts to create a system of Asian security. "We follow with sympathy the endeavours of the countries of the region to establish a zone of peace, good neighbourliness and cooperation in Southeast Asia," Peter Varkonyi stressed. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0804 GMT 4 Oct 85 OW]

SWEDEN APPROVES NONREFUNDABLE AID--According to reports from Sweden, the Swedish parliament has approved a proposal by the government for providing Vietnam with 300 million kronor as nonrefundable aid in fiscal 1985-86. This sum, equivalent to \$35 million, will be used to cover the operational costs of the Bai Bang paper mill, the Hanoi pediatric hospital, and the Uong Bi general hospital and to restore a number of industrial establishment in southern Vietnam. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 1 Oct 85 BK]

ETHIOPIAN CADRES VISIT--Hanoi VNA Oct 2--A group of cadres of the Ethiopian Workers' Party led by Abdul Hafez Yusuf, member of the party Central Committee and deputy head of its Commission for Organization, visited Vietnam from Sep 25-Oct 2, at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam. While here, the Ethiopian party officials called at the late President Ho Chi Minh's home and office here. Tran Quoc Hoan, member of the CPV CC and head of its Commission for Mass Agitation and Front Work received and had working sessions with the guests. The delegation visited various economic and cultural establishments in Hanoi, Haiphong and Quang Ninh Province. It was received on Oct 1 by Le Quang Dao, secretary on the CPV CC, who highly praised the achievements recorded by the Ethiopian people under the leadership of the Ethiopian Workers' Party in national construction and defence, and wished the Ethiopian people many greater achievements in their revolutionary cause. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1449 GMT 2 Oct 85 OW]

SOVIET-VIETNAMESE FRIENDSHIP MONTH CLOSES--Hanoi VNA Oct 1--A solemn meeting was arranged in Moscow on Sep 30, concluding the "month of Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship" opened in honor of the 40th anniversaries of the Vietnamese August Revolution and national day. It was attended by leading members of the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations with foreign countries and the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Society and representatives of the Moscow population. (?Charge d'affaires) a.i. Nguyen Van Quang (?and other members) of the Vietnamese embassy in Moscow also attended the function. Speaking on this occasion, Y.V. Gorshev, vice-president of the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Society, acclaimed the glorious history of Vietnam and expressed his joy at the outstanding achievements recorded by the Vietnamese people over the past 40 years in socialist construction and national defence. For his party, Nguyen Van Quang expressed sincere thanks to the Soviet Party, government and people for their great and effective assistance to Vietnam in the past as well as at present. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0904 GMT 2 Oct 85 OW]

GDR CADRES' HONORS--Hanoi VNA 30 Sep--A ceremony was arranged by the Vietnamese Embassy in Berlin on 27 September to confer the Vietnamese "Friendship" Order and "Friendship" Medal on several units and individuals in the German Democratic Republic made by the Vietnamese Council of Ministers in acknowledgment of their meritorious contributions to the Vietnamese Revolution. The "Friendship" Order was presented to personnel of the Dietz Publishing House, the Karl Mark Printing House and their respective directors Dr Lothar Guenter Hennig and Dr Guenther. On this occasion, Ambassador Tran Hoai Nam conferred the Vietnamese "Friendship" Medal on two German citizens who have given substantial help to the Vietnamese cinema service. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0733 GMT 30 Sep 85 OW]

CSO: 4200/32

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

NHAN DAN ON VIETNAMESE REVOLUTIONARY HEROISM

BK021019 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GJT 1 Oct 85

[NHAN DAN Editorial, 2 October: "Vietnamese Revolutionary Heroism"]

[Text] The SRV party and state have just awarded the Labor Hero title and [word indistinct] Hero Title to 218 units and collectives and 125 individuals representing various circles, sectors, and localities for their achievements in building and defending the socialist fatherland during the past years.

Since the fourth heroic emulation combatants congress held during late 1966-early 1967, the Vietnamese revolution has undergone almost 2 decades of glorious combat and ordeal, has scored very glorified victories, completely defeated the U.S. imperialist war of aggression, liberated South Vietnam, unified the fatherland, and foiled two wars of aggression waged by the reactionaries in the Chinese leadership. Our people are now carrying out socialist transformation and construction nationwide. This is a new and difficult task that will bring about very important initial changes in leading our country to firmly advance toward socialism.

The great victories are attributed to our party's correct stand, its ability in developing the worker's right to collective mastery, and its success in creating joint strengths by combining our country's military strength with that of the era, combining the military strength with political, economic, and cultural strengths; and combining each individual strength with those of hamlets, subwards, and villages throughout the country.

Our people and army are very heroic. People in each area of our land, sea, mountain, and river; and in each sector and echelon have all scored heroic achievements, thereby contributing to the nation's great victory.

These heroic units and individuals, trained and forged by the vast collectives, have represented their units in upholding the Vietnamese revolutionary heroism. They are absolutely loyal to the fatherland, party, and people. They always maintain the spirit of collective mastery and self-reliance, and strengthen their efforts to build a healthy life, to selflessly and creatively participate in labor productivity, to work effectively and successfully, and to combat bravely and brilliantly in order to fulfill all tasks, overcome all difficulties, and defeat all enemies.

In upholding the Vietnamese revolutionary heroism, each heroic unit and individual carry out the task with their own typical way. Their achievements were scored through a process of arduous struggle in which they had to overcome shortages, develop their strengths, and consistently surge forward. These heroic units and individuals have made valuable example and drawn on ample experience for becoming masters of themselves, of natural resources, and the society. They are forces that combine the spirit of patriotism with the love for socialism and the spirit of socialist internationalism.

The Vietnamese people warmly welcome various units and individuals who have just been awarded with the Hero titles. They contend that this is a mutual pride and honor for each collective, sector, locality, and for the whole country. President Ho Chi Minh said: Heroic individual comes from heroic collective; while heroic collective comes from heroic people, nation, and party.

Heroic units and individuals must maintain their characteristics in strengthening their close relations with collectives and the people, while maintaining their modest and simple nature. As receivers of the noble titles awarded by the party and state, they must always maintain the lofty spirit of these titles. The good example made and valuable experience drawn by these heroic units and individuals have encouraged everyone of us to carry out national construction and defense task. We are dutybound to implement the party Central Committee's sixth, seventh, and eighth plenums resolutions on shifting our economy to the new management system of socialist accounting and business which is aimed at developing all available capability and potentials and leading our national economy to new progress. It is imperative for us to overcome the consequences of waterlogging and flood, accelerate production, practice thrift, increase productivity, improve market management and prices, develop socialist trade, thereby fulfilling the 1985 and the 1981-85 state plans. We are also dutybound to consistently heighten our vigilance, stand ready for combat, resolutely foil the multifaceted war of sabotage and the war of land-nibbling being conducted by the reactionaries in the Chinese leadership, while fulfilling our international obligations.

Armed with the revolutionary heroism which is being upheld by heroic units and individuals, our entire party, people, and army have strong willpower and sufficient capability to fulfill our glorious revolutionary cause of building and defending the socialist fatherland.

CSO: 4209/20

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

HIGH-RANKING CADRES ATTEND COURSES IN TWO LOCATIONS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 23 Aug 85 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Training Courses Opened for Key Agriculture Cadres Throughout the Country"]

[Text] Implementing the policy of the CPV Central Committee Secretariat, recently in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi, the Agriculture Department of the Central Committee, in coordination with the Organization and Propaganda and Training Departments, held conferences attended by intermediate- and high-ranking cadres of different sectors and mass organizations at the central level and cadres in the agricultural field of different localities to promote a thorough and uniform understanding of the directives on agriculture, forestry, marine products and water conservancy adopted by the Secretariat since the 5th Party Congress.

The course in Ho Chi Minh City was attended by 344 delegates. In Hanoi, more than 500 delegates, who are intermediate- and high-ranking cadres in 77 units subordinate to different ministries and central committees and sectors, attended the course.

The principal subjects covered by the two courses were uniform and systematic understanding of the product contracting system in agriculture, transformation of agriculture in the (former) Nam Bo provinces, delivery of land, delivery of forest, development of the family-based economy, development of the state-operated economy, consolidation and perfection of the production relationships in the highland and coastal areas, improvement of economic management and perfection of the product contracting system in agricultural cooperatives.

At both conferences, Nguyen Thanh Binh, secretary of the CPV Central Committee, introduced the spirit and basic views of the party as they are mentioned in the directives issued by the Secretariat on the agricultural front. The ministers and deputy ministers in the agricultural field discussed the

objectives, meaning, requirements and real contents of the Secretariat's directives. The experiences in creatively and effectively carrying out the party directives were reported to the classes by a number of progressive models in the collective and state economic sectors, from a number of districts in different areas and in such sectors as agriculture, forestry, water conservancy and marine products; at the same time, resolutions were proposed about urgent matters for the purpose of abolishing the bureaucratic and state-financing mechanisms and switching to economic accounting in the spirit of Resolution 8 of the CPV Central Committee.

5598

CSO: 4209/8

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

EFFORTS TO BUILD, DEVELOP SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY REVIEWED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 28 Aug 85 p 3

[Article by Dang Huu, chairman, State Science and Technology Commission: "Forty Years of Achievements: Building and Developing Science and Technology"]

[Text] The August Revolution has opened up a new era for the Vietnamese nation and also started a new era for the development of Vietnamese science and technology.

Having a keen awareness of the important role of scientific and technical progress in resolving the country's socioeconomic problems, the Communist Party and Government of Vietnam in the past 40 years have overcome myriads of difficulties in order to build and develop science and technology and to direct them toward serving more and more realistically the revolutionary tasks of each period.

During the resistance against the French colonialists (1945-1954), while we were not in a position to be capable of training scientific and technical cadres, the party and government were concentrating their efforts on fighting illiteracy, building and developing a system of general education in the free zones and taking many measures to mobilize a large part of the scientific and technical cadres' force for serving the resistance. In spite of their very small number and the extremely poor and difficult conditions, these scientific and technical cadres had been making realistic contributions, especially in the fields of national defense, public health and education.

Following the victory in the resistance against the French colonialists, the 3rd Party Congress (September 1960) affirmed in its resolution that along with the socialist revolution in the economic field, it would be necessary to step up the socialist revolution in the ideological, cultural and technical fields.

In August 1965, as the American imperialists extended the war of destruction to the North, many newly-built material and technical bases in the country were destroyed or dispersed and evacuated in order to continue to operate under the conditions of war. Although the situation was so difficult, many aspects of our scientific and technical activities, particularly the training of scientific and technical cadres and technical labor, the building of a network of scientific and technical research and development organs and the mobilization of the scientific and technical potential for combat and production under the conditions of the war of destruction, continued to be maintained and further developed. Science and technology made considerable contributions to the victory in the resistance against America for national salvation and socialist construction in the North.

Following the liberation of the South and reunification of the country, the 4th Party Congress (December 1976) affirmed the general line for the socialist revolution in the new stage in our country, namely, "firmly maintain the proletarian dictatorship; further develop the collective ownership right of the working people; and simultaneously carry on three revolutions -- the revolution in the production relationships, the scientific and technical revolution and the ideological and cultural revolution, with the scientific and technical revolution being the key one."

In the 5 years of 1976-1980, each year on the average hundreds of results of scientific and technical research of realistic value were put into application in various sectors, localities and installations. Some research results were applied on a large scale. Thousands of research and partial-investigation subjects were organized into programs for advancement of science and technology aimed at coordinating the scientific and technical forces of many sectors, localities, the Vietnam Institutes of Science, colleges, and so on; resolving urgent matters; and helping to overcome the country's difficulties in the stage of postwar economic recovery and development. Progress was also made in technical management; standardization was stepped up; a system of testing, certifying and repairing measuring instruments was set up throughout the country; a system of control of quality of products and goods from central to local and basic levels was established. The scientific and technical potential was further strengthened.

In order to respond to the requirements of the situation and tasks in the new stage of the revolution, first of all for the 1981-1985 stage, the CPV Political Bureau has issued Resolution No 37 on the scientific and technical policy (April 1981) in order to define the principal objectives and tasks of developing science and technology; exploiting and developing the scientific and technical potential; and recommending the major formulas, principles, measures and positions necessary to ensure fulfillment of the suggested tasks and guidelines.

The basic views and principles behind the line and policy on the development of Vietnam's science and technology have been mentioned in the resolution of the 4th Party Congress and Resolution 37 of the Political Bureau and have been affirmed and clarified in the resolution of the 5th Party Congress (March 1982).

In the 1981-1985 stage, all sectors and localities have organized programs for advancement of science and technology aimed at further mobilizing the scientific and technical potential in the whole country, coordinating investigation and research activities and developing and applying scientific and technical achievements to fulfilling the most important objectives and tasks that were defined in the national economy, sectors, localities and production installations. Among them the most important tasks were in such fields as natural science, science and technology, and social science and were scheduled for fulfillment in 78 major state programs for advancement of science and technology.

The way these plans and programs were carried out in recent years showed that in spite of difficulties and some remaining weaknesses and shortcomings, basically there have been good changes in our scientific and technical activities, which scored quite encouraging achievements. The changes and achievements obtained have for the first time proved the correctness that was demonstrated in the realities of the objectives, principles, policies and measures aimed at building and developing science and technology in Vietnam and contained in the recent resolutions of the CPV and Council of Ministers.

In the science and technology policy of a state, the construction and effective use of science and technology and their potential are considered a basic goal and at the same time a precondition that ensures the fulfillment of the important objectives and guidelines set for development of science and technology.

Forty years of building and developing the Vietnamese scientific and technical potential have reflected the special interest of the Communist Party and Government of Vietnam in this work.

Attention was being paid to quickly building and developing, both quantitatively and qualitatively, the ranks of science and technology cadres -- the hard-core force that carries on the scientific and technical revolution in our country -- in a pattern that has generally reflected the guidelines on building an independent and self-supporting economy and science and technology.

Starting with an extremely small number of scientific and technical cadres, who were structurally lame (after the August Revolution there were only about 1,000 people having higher than vocational middle school background), we

have so far built a contingent of scientific and technical cadres nearly 1 million strong whose educational background is vocational middle school and higher. It includes more than 4,000 PhD's and MA's and more than 300,000 graduates of colleges and advanced schools. Starting with being nearly totally dependent on foreign technicians, our cadres today can receive and master many new techniques and industrial skills, conduct investigation and research and resolve many scientific and technical problems while serving production and everyday life in conformity with the socioeconomic situation and characteristics of our country.

Receiving continued training from the party and state, our scientific and technical cadres are highly patriotic, have a high understanding of socialism and a clear awareness of the country's needs and difficulties, show correct views on serving, are patient and industrious in their work and have creativity and the practical knowledge and experience that allow them to satisfy many scientific and technical needs created by the national economy, now and in the long term.

As to the material and technical base and organization devoted to scientific and technical research and development, after having started from nothing, we have now built and established 170 scientific research and technical development organs and more than 400 testing and experimental stations, farms and centers devoted to trial production. In these organs, nearly 20,000 cadres, including more than 1,500 PhD's and MA's and 13,000 college-level cadres, work. Scientific and technical investigation and research and development also are effectively conducted in colleges, advanced schools and vocational middle schools.

The network of scientific and technical information and libraries, which has been built as a national network having close relations with other scientific and technical information networks in the world, for the first time has made realistic contributions and serves the needs for scientific and technical activities of production and our leaders at all levels.

Under such development conditions in connection with the scientific and technical potential factors, each year our scientific organs, colleges and central and local production installations throughout the country conduct nearly 5,000 subjects of scientific and technical research and development and investigation. Of these subjects each year there are 250-300 reaching the stage of trial production and preparations for application to production and about 300 being applied to production or being used to extend the scope of application to the national economy.

On the basis of forming and developing the scientific and technical potential within the country, as well as promoting scientific and technical cooperation

with other countries, particularly with the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries, the scientific and technical activities in Vietnam today have become a widespread activity and have been making realistic contributions to production, everyday life and the defense of the fatherland.

The Vietnamese scientific and technical activities cover many fields and are conducted as a unified system under the leadership of the central level to reach localities and production installations throughout the country. These are activities that are directly linked with production, such as standardization, measure, control of quality of products and goods; introduction and application of advanced technology to production and everyday life; initiatives aimed at technical improvement and rationalization of production; investigations of resources and natural conditions; protection of the environment; research and development, information and dissemination of science and technology, and for the first time there has been a close combination of the social and natural sciences with science-technology, for the purpose of realistically fulfilling the objectives, formulas and guidelines of the national science and technology policy as mentioned in Resolution 37 of the CPV Political Bureau.

As the result of the scientific and technical potential, material and technical bases and system of scientific and technical activities being placed under such a unified leadership, we have scored many achievements, including many quite outstanding ones in the fields of agriculture, forestry and marine products and in many industrial and building sectors like machine industry, metallurgy, energy, fuels, communications and transportation, information and liaison and capital construction, in medicine and the field of investigation of resources and natural conditions and environmental protection. What is important is that through these realistic activities and through learning and exchange of experience, we Vietnamese have gradually raised our capacity to accept the knowledges, studies and inventions of the world today and to apply them to the real conditions of our country. We have become capable of taking part in some leading scientific and technical fields in the world, such as the Intersputnik Program. A number of Vietnamese scientists have contributed some works of international caliber in medicine, physics, etc.

The achievements we have obtained in building and developing the scientific and technical potential, as well as in making science and technology serve the objective and task of developing the national economy, to some extent show the present level of achievement in the development of Vietnamese science and technology, after 40 years of building in compliance with the line and policy of the Communist Party and Government of Vietnam.

On the basis of the experiences in construction and development in the last 40 years, in order to conform to the spirit of the resolution of the 8th Plenum of

the CPV Central Committee (5th term), and on the basis of the policy of developing science and technology as an organic component and an important factor to develop production, the scientific and technical management mechanism (organization, planning and sociopsychological and economic levers) on the one hand must fit other important parts of the national economic management mechanism in the direction of encouraging and creating favorable conditions for effective development of science and technology, and on the other hand must be able to reflect the characteristics of creative activities and to organize a wide application of what has been newly created within the country and in the world in a fast, timely and jointly effective manner. This is not only an immediate thing to do, but this is also the spirit that must be reflected in the strategy for development of science and technology as a part of the forthcoming strategy for long-term development of the national economy.

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CSO: 4209/8

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ON UPCOMING REAPPRAISAL OF FIXED ASSETS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 22 Aug 85 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Conducting a Good General Inventory and Reappraisal of Fixed Assets"]

[Text] In the building and development of the socialist economy, fixed assets in our country have, in terms of their structure, quantity, quality and value, been formed and developed rapidly.

The growth of fixed assets within the national economy is of important significance to production and social life, is a reflection of economic development and is a prerequisite to the creation of the material-technical bases of socialism. However, the fixed assets in our country are, for the most part, very diverse, consist of many different types obtained from many different sources and the majority of these assets have been imported.

With the aim of effectively managing and utilizing fixed assets, our state has taken inventory of and reappraised fixed assets on many different occasions, each time on a different scope and scale. The general inventory and reappraisal of fixed assets in 1957, the investigation of production capacity within the northern provinces in 1973, the general inventory and reappraisal of fixed assets throughout the country in 1980, the upward adjustments made in 1981 to the original value of fixed assets... Although the inventories and reappraisals of fixed assets mentioned above have produced a certain number of results, compared to the requirements of the management and use of fixed assets, limitations still exist in many areas and must be quickly corrected.

At present, the stated value of fixed assets is very much lower than their actual value. The use, management and repair of fixed assets do not comply with established regulations and standards. Fixed asset depreciation as a part of production and circulation costs is not calculated at a uniform and reasonable rate. Consequently, the resulting depreciation capital is less than is needed to undertake major repairs and much less than is needed to reproduce fixed assets when they break. Fixed asset depreciation costs are not fully included in production and circulation costs and only amount to a very small percentage of what they actually are. The remaining value of fixed assets does not accurately reflect the condition of fixed assets. The efficiency with which fixed assets are used is still low.

To correct the situation mentioned above with the aims of putting the management and use of fixed assets on a regular basis and achieving high economic efficiency in keeping with the spirit of the resolution of the 8th Plenum of the 5th Party Central Committee, namely, completely dismantling bureaucracy and subsidization and shifting entirely to economic accounting and socialist business practices, with the immediate and direct aim being to support the effort to correctly determine and fully include all cost factors in production costs and support the socio-economic construction and development of the country in the years ahead (1986-1990), all production enterprises and business organizations throughout the country will, in accordance with decisions by the Council of Ministers, conduct a general inventory and reappraisal of fixed assets at 0001 hours on 1 October 1985.

The objectives of this general inventory and reappraisal of fixed assets is to fully assess the fixed asset situation from the standpoint of the structure, quantity, quality and value of fixed assets; to correctly determine the condition of assets and the production capacity of units; and to calculate the price of restoring fixed assets in accordance with the uniform, nationwide price system. These steps will help the sectors, levels and basic economic units to determine how much fixed capital they have and gain a clear understanding of the condition of the fixed assets under their management in order to lay the base needed to formulate a plan for distributing, regulating and using existing fixed assets. At the same time, these steps will enable them to plan investments in fixed assets and the retooling, improvement, repair and modernization of these assets, thereby meeting the requirements of socio-economic construction and development in the years ahead.

This general inventory and reappraisal of fixed assets also has the objective of clearly defining who is responsible for, who manages and who uses fixed assets; further improving the management and use of assets by reorganizing all economic-technical records; and putting the accounting procedures applied to and the management of assets under a strict and uniform nationwide system with a view toward preventing the loss and wasteful use of fixed assets.

The general inventory and reappraisal of fixed assets constitute a general inspection that is of profound significance in many areas: politics, the economy, society and the standard of living. It is work of a professional and scientific nature as well as work of a broad mass nature. It is a large and very important, emergency job, one that will involve many complex difficulties and will only be performed within a specified time frame. The results of the general inventory and reappraisal of fixed assets depend, to a very important degree, upon the preparations made by units under the direct leadership and with appropriate concern on the part of the various party committee echelons and the administrations on the various levels. Therefore, this work demands that the various party committee echelons, the people's committees on the various levels and the managers of units have a deep understanding of the contents and spirit of the decisions of the Council of Ministers concerning the general inventory and reappraisal of fixed assets and they focus their efforts on directly leading and organizing and guiding the performance of this work well within the scope of the sector, locality or unit under their management.

The general inventory and reappraisal of fixed assets steering committees on the various levels must urgently and actively recheck each preparation made and inspect, supervise, direct and assist basic units in completing these preparations well so that they can conduct the inventory on schedule, within the specific amount of time and in accordance with the inventory requirements and methods stipulated in the plan for the general inventory and reappraisal of fixed assets.

This general inventory and reappraisal of fixed assets will make an important contribution to the implementation of the resolution of the 8th Plenum, the aim of which is to advance our country's economy to a new level of development and achieve high productivity, quality and efficiency.

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CSO: 4209/660

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

CAN THO REORGANIZES PRIVATE READY-MADE CLOTHING BUSINESS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 22 Aug 85 p 2

[Article by Huu Tam and Song Toan: "The New Feature in the Transformation of Private Commerce Within the Municipality of Can Tho"]

[Text] The municipality of Can Tho in Hau Giang Province began carrying out the transformation of the various product sectors of private commerce, which includes the cloth and ready made clothing sector, at an early date. Recently, the municipality introduced a new form of transformation: contracts with technical labor in commerce.

All 105 cloth and ready-made clothing merchants at the Can Tho Market were brought together to discuss the mode of transformation and come to an agreement with the General Merchandise and Food Products Corporation that merchants, depending upon their product group, would contribute from 50,000 to 400,000 dong in capital to the corporation and receive a contract salary of 20 percent of the revenue from sales. A number of private merchants, clearly recognizing the benefits of this new mode of transformation, voluntarily contributed 9 million dong in capital and became 63 retail agents. This capital contribution was based on the value of their inventory as determined on the basis of negotiated prices. Those who lacked the necessary capital contributed cash to bring their contribution up to the required level. Selling prices were the original purchase price plus 6 percent, which was broken down as follows: 2 percent paid to the agent, 2 percent paid in taxes and 2 percent paid to the corporation as income. Once they sold their merchandise, the agents remitted 4 percent to the corporation and the corporation delivered additional merchandise to the agents to sell and collected the revenues from sales immediately.

In the 2 months that sales agents were utilized, the income of the state increased markedly. With business revenues of 54.3 million dong, agents earned 1.1 million dong in commissions. Some 2.6 million dong in profits were paid to the state. During the preceding 2 months, the tax sector only collected for the budget 1.5 million dong.

The corporation has a large cloth and ready-made clothing store in the center of the municipality. One of the corporation's deputy directors serves as the store's manager and is directly in charge of cloth merchants. One of the

store's assistant managers is in charge of the section that purchases cloth for the store. Another assistant manager of the store is in charge of the procurements, sales and prices of agents. The sources of cloth are the former "merchandise contacts" that these agents used as private businessmen. The agents introduced these "contacts" to the state store so that the store could use them as sources and have them give priority to delivering merchandise to agents to sell. Going one step further, the corporation has organized these 63 agents into 19 departments within the state cloth and ready-made clothing store, thereby turning the private cloth and ready-made clothing trade into "state-operated" trade. These 63 persons have become state store personnel under a policy of "contracts with technical labor in commerce."

The corporation has invested more than 1 million dong in repairing and providing new equipment for these 19 departments, which measure a total of 300 square meters. The capital contributed by these persons is used as liquid capital to procure merchandise. Merchandise is delivered to these personnel on an "already priced when delivered" basis and inventory is taken at the end of the month (or at unscheduled times). Personnel must pay for cloth shortages and receive a bonus for having extra cloth as a result of economizing on a bolt of cloth. At the end of each business day, corporation bookkeepers make up sales reports based on the invoices of sales personnel. The receipts turned in by sales personnel to corporation cashiers are based on these reports.

Technical personnel are paid 2 percent of sales revenues provided that they correctly comply with the stipulations of their contracts, such as selling merchandise at the correct place (the stipulation is that merchandise be sold at a state-operated commerce counter), measuring cloth accurately and selling cloth at the correct price. A penalty equal to 10 percent of the total wage earned during the month must be paid if these stipulations are violated. If outside merchandise is smuggled in and put on sale at a state-operated commerce counter or if other means are used to do business illegally, all of this merchandise will be confiscated or requisitioned.

In the 50 days that the "contracts with technical labor in commerce" have been in use, the 19 merchandise departments (consisting of 63 workers) have generated 44.2 million dong in business revenues, contract workers have been paid 1.018 million dong and the corporation has earned 5.848 million dong in profits, far more than the taxes that used to be collected. Technical personnel have earned about 320 dong apiece per day. This income is high compared to the income of the personnel of state-operated commerce. However, compared to the amount of capital they had to "put down as a deposit" to earn this income of 1.018 million dong in 50 days, this interest rate is lower than the "loan shark" rates being secretly realized by private lenders. Moreover, to achieve this rate of return, workers have had to work with high efficiency, not just sit and take in money like those who lend money at exorbitant rates of interest.

But such have not been the only results of transformation. Within a relatively short amount of time, the restructuring of the private cloth business brought a new look to the cloth and ready-made clothing market, thus

helping to stabilize prices. "Cutthroat prices and buying the wrong merchandise or paying the wrong price as a result of tricks pulled on customers by private merchants no longer exist. Commerce is more civilized. Customers can choose what they want to buy. Whereas there were once hundreds of cloth merchants in the market, merchants who competed against one another to buy merchandise and who robbed customers to whom they sold this merchandise, there are now 19 cloth and ready-made clothing departments with attractive counters and all the equipment and conveniences they need to satisfy customers. The municipality's commerce sector, which previously only had one store specializing in cloth and ready-made clothing, has now been strengthened by the addition of 19 convenient departments. Merchants who once practiced bad habits in business have now become genuine workers within the workforce of socialist commerce.

The stages and forms of transformation of the cloth and ready-made clothing sector as well as the food products, vegetable and fruit sector in Can Tho have produced positive results. Letting transformation drift, only going half way in transformation are things of the past. The market in Can Tho has a new look, socialist commerce is assuming the dominant position.

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CSO: 4209/660

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

BRIEFS

MARKET FEES--Miss Van, a member of a working class family in the outskirts of the municipality of Vinh, who had raised a hog on vegetables and bran purchased on the market, received permission to slaughter and sell it on the free market. When she requested a permit to take her pork to sell at the Vinh Market, she paid to the village 10 dong for the permit fee and then 100 dong for the slaughtering tax. As she took the pork through the market gate, she paid another 20 dong (the fee for bringing goods into the market). To prepare the pork for sale, one of the market's personnel stamped the meat to certify that it was disease free and collected 20 dong. While she was selling the pork, tax collection personnel arrived and inspected her papers. Although they saw that she had a receipt for the slaughtering tax paid to the village, they still made her pay an additional 190 dong (?). Although she only sold 32 kilograms of pork, she had to pay five different fees, amounting to a total of 540 dong, some of which really made no sense. We ask that there be fewer of these bothersome procedures. [Text] [Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 22 Aug 85 p 2] 7809

CSO: 4209/660

FORTY YEARS OF HEALTH SECTOR DEVELOPMENT REVIEWED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 5 Aug 85 pp 3,4

[Article by Professor Hoang Dinh Cau]

[Text] On the 40th anniversary of the founding of the new Vietnam, looking back over the recent past, we see that the health sector has grown continuously stronger.

After the August Revolution in 1945, the health sector received a poor inheritance from the French colonialists--the fatherland destitute, the situation of the people miserable (as evidenced by the terrible famine of 1945, which caused the death of more than 2 million people in the north and the spread of such diseases as cholera, smallpox, malaria, rashes from fleas and body lice, and trachoma). There was nearly no medical base other than a number of "charitable acts" hospitals in provinces and municipalities, a small cadre corps that made a living mainly by "private treatment," and one pharmaceutical college for all three countries of Indochina. The following figures illustrate the poor state of health among the people: the mortality rate was 2.4 percent overall; that of children under 1 year of age was 30 percent; and the average life expectancy for citizens was 34 years. As for the medical cadre corps, there were 51 medical doctors, 152 Indochinese physicians, 36 college pharmacists, 22 Indochinese pharmacists, 1,227 nurses, and 215 midwives.

From the very first days immediately after the August Revolution succeeded, implementing the line of the party and government headed by the esteemed Uncle Ho, the health sector concentrated on the urgent tasks of building a large corps of medical cadres, from hygienists (7-day and 1-month courses) to Red Cross personnel (3-month courses), reopening the pharmaceutical college and other such schools, taking measures to stop epidemics (via widespread injections of domestically-produced vaccines against smallpox, cholera, and typhoid fever), and launching popular drives for preventive hygiene, hygienic living, changing chopsticks when eating, and killing flies, mosquitoes, and rats.

Venereal disease, the legacy of colonialism, especially in areas temporarily occupied by the enemy, was eradicated in the north during the 1960's. Many

positive methods were adopted, such as forming mobile units to go out to temporarily occupied rural areas and find, treat, and run blood-tests on all women confined in childbirth in order to aggressively treat all cases of infectious syphilis. After complete liberation of the south, the experience in the socialist north advanced the cause of the fight against venereal disease and heroin with centers to restore human dignity, and thousands of persons returned to wholesome lives, with value for society, which brought happiness to many families.

Special emphasis was placed on the eradication of leprosy. Leprosy, one of the incurable diseases that used to be so difficult to treat and generated such prejudices among the people is no longer "hard to treat." One contracting leprosy, shunned, and treated with cruelty, and abused by society before, now led a normal life. Thousands of persons recovered, returned to their families, and engaged in productive labor. Propaganda work to promote prevention and control of leprosy reached every citizen and caused him to discard his psychology of concealment and fear, thereby contributing to early detection and thorough treatment. The result was that the rate of leprosy contraction decreased from .2 per thousand to .09 per thousand; the health sector had taken the first step in planning the gradual replacement of leprosy treatment areas with sanatoriums for the seriously disabled who had no place to turn to for care.

The effort to prevent and control tuberculosis conducted since 1958 has been significantly successful. In spite of the two disastrous wars which the people have had to endure over the past 30 years, the rate of tuberculosis contraction decreased among the people from 1.7 per thousand in 1976 to .8 per thousand in 1983. The above results are due to having a broad grassroots-level health network, examinations conducted at regularly scheduled intervals, early detection and positive treatment, and widespread BCG vaccination of newborn babies. In addition to scientific and technological advances in disease prevention and cure, combining the use of Eastern with Western medicine and internal medicine with surgery helped significantly reduce the number of deaths from tuberculosis.

One of the significant accomplishments over the past 40 years was made in the effort to wipe out malaria. An aggressive offensive conducted against malaria in the north in the 1960's had considerable results. Malaria has been eliminated in many localities where it was previously endemic. The fight against malaria has been stepped up in the southern provinces since complete liberation of the south, but we have encountered many problems due to the failure of the old regime to follow through in its efforts, which gave mosquitoes and other parasitic insects resistance to insecticides in a number of localities. Through a combination of spraying insecticides against mosquitoes, detecting disease early and providing positive treatment, and providing prophylactic tablets for use, the rate of contraction decreased daily, from 5.6 per thousand in 1976 to 3.49 per thousand in 1985.

In addition to the diseases mentioned above, the medical sector is conducting programs to fight and control such other infectious and social diseases as diarrhea, trachoma, hemorrhagic fever, blindness, goiter, worms, and oral disease.

widespread vaccination against the six diseases of diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, tuberculosis, and measles, especially among children under 6 years of age, decreased the contraction rate significantly.

Most diseases are transmitted to humans through daily contact with the environment. Factors polluting the environment in a developing country like ours are mainly manure, garbage, and water. The health sector made many efforts to perseveringly mobilize the people to build many types of latrines appropriate to each locality and time period--and the best type of latrine presently being adopted by a number of localities is the biological gas tank, which solves the problem of handling manure (human and animal) and organic garbage and at the same time produces methane gas for lighting and for use as cooking fuel or for firewood, reducing the destruction of forests.

On the road to socialist industrialization, fighting environmental pollution to protect the health of workers is a very big issue. In agriculture, we must combat both fast-acting and lingering poisoning, brought about by the constantly increasing use of various insecticides and fertilizers to protect crops and increase yields. In transportation and communications, if intensive planning does not take place, motor vehicles using inappropriate fuels will cause air pollution (55 percent), which causes many respiratory illnesses, including cancer. For many years now, we have tried hard to build up the labor hygiene sector. We have done extensive research on occupational diseases, have sought measures to reduce the vibration and noise of machinery, and have studied ways to clean up the environment in order to safeguard the ability of the worker to work.

An important factor causing "pollution of the social environment" is rapid population growth. The national population was 18 million in 1936, 38 million in 1970, and 53.6 million in 1980, which means that the population doubled in 34 years and tripled in 44 years. Rapid population growth causes hardship in the lives of each class of the people, especially of the working people; health decreases and disease increases and--particularly important--children have less nutrition, which influences the development of posterity. Over many years, the health sector has made many efforts in support of the policy of reducing the rate of population growth, the population growth rate fell from 3.2 percent in the 1960's to 2.2 percent in 1984, and the goal and objective fought for is 1 percent for the period from now to 1990.

The entire health sector is systematically implementing programs related to environmental issues in response to the United Nations' 10-year (1981-1990) program on water and cleaning up the environment.

Over the past 40 years, the pharmaceuticals sector in Vietnam gradually grew from a poor, nearly non-existent material base to the establishment of a network of more than 50 pharmaceutical enterprises, which have made many accomplishments supplying medicine and chemicals to the people for the prevention and care of illness. On one hand, industrialization was combined with exploitation of domestic pharmaceuticals to satisfy domestic needs and begin exporting; on the other, drives were launched among the people to plant and use medicinal herbs. Many cooperatives have used folk medicines to satisfy 50-70 percent of their own needs for common drugs. Many localities strongly developed efforts to plant and pick medicinal herbs, especially after the health sector's movement to surpass goals in five areas. The five areas in which to surpass goals in the health sector were: construction of the three hygiene-related public works (wells, baths, and latrines); raising the quality of disease prevention and treatment and managing the health of all the citizens in a region; planned parenthood; raising and using medicinal herbs; and perfecting basic-level, district, and ward health organizations.

As of 1 April 1984, 11 districts had surpassed goals in the five areas, and more than 3,000 cooperatives had surpassed goals in attaining self-sufficiency in folk medicine.

Many good results were achieved in the effort to combine modern medicine with traditional medicine. The Institute of Folk Medicine and Institute of Acupuncture are leading centers of the sector, with many accomplishments in the inheritance and development of traditional experience in treatment. Many medical folk beliefs were studied and put to effective use at basic-level health installations.

Strictly adhering to the viewpoint and policy of the party and especially the teaching of Uncle Ho, "...building a health sector appropriate to the needs of the people, medicine must also be based on the principle of folk and mass science," (Letter of Chairman Ho to the Conference of Medical Cadres, February 1955) the health sector of Vietnam has assiduously built a broad urban and rural basic-level health network, for which the two basic points of contact are the ward and the village.

Modern scientific and technical installations at the central echelon have performed such sophisticated procedures as heart, lung, kidney, and neurological surgery, microsurgery within the eye, and procedures in a number of other disciplines such as nuclear medicine and hematology. At the same time, there have been appropriate health organizations in 100 percent of delta and mountain regions, and village aid stations in more than 90 percent of the villages, with medics in more than 80 percent of the aid stations. At the end of this article are statistics on the territorial distribution of medical cadres.

Cadres occupy an important and decisive role in the sector's implementation of party policy. Special attention was given to cadre training. From a single pharmaceutical school for the three countries of Indochina, we built

a network of university-level medical colleges in each region (Bac Thai, Thai Binh, Hue, Tay Nguyen, Can Tho, and Ho Chi Minh City), and more than 40 central-echelon and local medical and pharmaceutical middle schools. Even during the violent war years, medical teaching and study were maintained and developed in response to the needs of service in time of peace as well as in time of war. By the end of 1983, the ranks of cadres in the sector had increased 100 times over the pre-August Revolution levels.

	Before the August Revolution	1983
Graduate degrees in medicine	0	163
Graduate degrees in pharmaceuticals	1	65
Medical doctors	51	15,917
Pharmaceutical college graduates	35	5,183
Indochinese medics (mid-level)	152	33,586
Indochinese druggists (mid-level)	22	4,839
Nurses	1,227	115,590
Midwives	215	

The cadres above, though less than the needed number, made a significant contribution to the cause of building Vietnam's health sector. Some cadres have devoted decades to medical work in the mountains, on islands, and on remote frontiers; some comrades lost their lives while performing duties on the front lines of the fatherland. Many comrades made valuable contributions to medicine in Vietnam and even internationally.

During the historical stage of 40 storm-filled, but also glory-filled, years, the health sector of Vietnam achieved some preliminary successes, served peacetime as well as wartime needs, and contributed to upholding the health and increasing the longevity of the people. This is clear from the figures below:

	Before the August Revolution	Today
General mortality rate	2.4%	0.75%
Mortality rate for children under 1 yr	30%	3.35%
Average life span of citizens	34 years	63 years

If we want to build a medical establishment that is "scientific, democratic, and of the masses," as Chairman Ho stressed repeatedly, we must greatly increase our efforts in the health sector. Under the formula of "the state and the people working together," each citizen knowing how to prize himself, maintain his health, and protect his living environment, and, at the same time, with more attention and investment from the state, the medical sector of Vietnam is certain to be able to fulfill its glorious mission to protect the health of all the people, which is the objective of the sector from now to the year 2000.

Table: Territorial Distribution of Cadres

District unit	State medical installations				Village aid stations	
	doctors	medics	college pharma- cists	mid- level pharm- acists	doctors	medics
Gia Lam (Hanoi)	42	47	9	2		64
Dong Van (Ha Tuyen)	4	25				18
Trang Dinh (Lang Son)	8	27	2	3		17
Quynh Luu (Nghe Tinh)	27	35	7	10	2	63
Huong Hoa (Binh Tri Thien)	7	23	1	1		20
Phu Quoc (Kien Giang)	1	13	1	1		3
Dam Doi (Minh Hai)	3	17		1		4

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CSO: 5400/4428

POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

READER URGES ACTION AGAINST PUBLIC DRUNKENNESS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 22 Aug 85 p 2

[Readers' Forum column: "Disorderly Drinking Should Be Prohibited"]

[Text] We welcome the notice from the Ministry of Interior on prohibiting the drinking of alcoholic beverages by members of the people's public security forces, a notice that emphasizes the moral standards of public security personnel. We suggest that a campaign should also be launched among cadres, manual workers and civil servants of the state to reduce drinking.

In our village, the number of persons who drink is rather large and a very large quantity of alcohol is consumed. Not only are adults drinking hard and getting drunk, but youths are imitating them as well. There is no shortage of alcohol at agency banquets. At many weddings in the countryside, hundreds of liters of bootleg liquor are consumed. Drinking has led to incidents that have caused a loss of everyday security and order, such as fighting, cursing, the random firing of weapons, traffic accidents... This is not to mention the harm caused by liquor made by private individuals that contains many toxins that weaken a person's health, reduce labor productivity at enterprises and reduce work efficiency at agencies. The most serious problem here is the waste of grain. Hundreds of tons of rice have been gobbled up by the "fermentation phantom." The growth of illegal distilling has made it difficult to control the sale of bootleg liquor.

In the face of this situation, the responsible agencies must mete out heavy fines to persons who illegally make liquor. Measures should be taken to prevent cadres, workers and troops from drinking and becoming drunk on streets and in cafes. Every locality should set up places where state store personnel sell alcoholic beverages in limited quantities to persons who are alcoholics.

Do Minh Y
(Ca Mau City)

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CSO: 4209/660

POPULATION, CUSTOMS, AND CULTURE

BRIEFS

LANG SON PROVINCE MUSEUM--Hanoi VNA 27 Sep--A museum dedicated to the Bac Son Insurrection has been built in the northern border province of Lang Son in commemoration of its 45th anniversary (Sep 27). The uprising was crushed but it laid the groundwork for the founding of the Revolutionary Armed Forces leading to the August Revolution 1945. The museum displays relics and documents related to the Bac Son Insurrection in 1940 and to the 40 days' activities of President Truong Dinh and other Vietnamese revolutionaries at the Bac Son Guerrilla Base during the insurrection. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0720 GMT 27 Sep 85 OW]

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